

## Mrs Thatcher not ready to compromise in EEC fund

Prime Minister is giving European leaders more chance to find some way to give the United Kingdom a broad balance between payments into and receipts from European Economic Community funds. Ministerial talks arranged in London to compromise, Whitehall said.

## Ministerial talks not sign of weakness

Mr. Peter Shore, the opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, responded strongly to reports that the Government might be offering to compromise on the EEC fund. He said: "It would be a very serious setback to this country if the objective of a broad balance was now to be abandoned. It would be quite contrary to the expressed wish of the Commons on two occasions in the past six months," he said.

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## Mr Murray makes last attempt at steel peace

By David Felton  
Labour Reporter

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, this morning meets leaders of 14 unions in the steel industry in a last-ditch attempt to head off a national steel strike on January 2.

The meeting at TUC headquarters in London will be held in an atmosphere of growing pessimism that a solution can be found to persuade the unions and the British Steel Corporation to leave their entrenched positions.

Mr Murray called in the unions after the breakdown of talks between the corporation and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, the corporation's "final" pay offer of 5 per cent having been rejected.

With the confederation demanding an increase in line with the rate of inflation, the prospects of averting the industry's first official national strike look gloomy.

Senior British Steel executives will be in their offices today and if Mr Murray is able to build a bridge between the two sides, new negotiations could be held.

Last night, however, Mr William Sims, general secretary of the confederation, said: "I have no hope whatsoever that we shall be able to reach negotiations with the corporation. Unless the corporation can find some new money, there is no possibility of further meetings with them."

Mr Sims' argument was being rejected by "the fearless ones" on the corporation board. "They are the ones who are saying that no money should be offered at all," he said.

Mr Sims said that these people were people who have no responsibility for the industry. "My members find it shocking that these people are probably making larger offers to their own workers than is being offered to us," he said.

Replying to a suggestion from Mr Michael Gyles, vice-chairman of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, that the confederation should hold a secret ballot of the membership, Mr Sims said that his union rules did not provide for ballots.

The strike decision had been taken only after plans and regional meetings indicated strong support for the action. The best thing Mr Gyles could do to have a secret ballot among members of the confederation, he said, was to get the Government to do something for British industry.

The confederation's increased offer of 7 to 5 per cent was conditional on the union agreeing to the abolition of the guaranteed minimum working week which costs £30m a year.

Mr Sims said that even if the corporation did make an improved offer, time was running out to call off the strike, with the holiday period intervening.

The confederation's executive is being called to London this week, but the 60-strong negotiating committee has been dispersed and there are no plans for its recall.

The decision by the industry's 12,000 blastfurnacemen to join the strike, coupled with support for the steelworkers from other unions, will mean that the strike will start to bite quickly.

Mr Sims said: "We have had a look? If I were a spy-master somewhere they would not be the sort of thing I would regard as hot intelligence. I gave Burgess' opinions about what Britain was doing, and after the outbreak of war the meetings between Mr Cairncross and Mr Burgess ended."

Mr Cairncross who lives in retirement in Rome, said: "I was surprised when Mr Sims said to see me. Burgess never told me he was a Communist, let alone a Communist secret agent. I had lived in terror ever since Burgess and McLean fled to Russia. It put everything in an entirely new light. He was asked to resign and did so."

Mr Cairncross, who was a member of the party, said: "In 1936 Mr Cairncross, brother of Sir Alec Cairncross, former economic adviser to the government, joined the Foreign Office, coming out of the examination for that year. By this time he had apparently abandoned his left-wing politics."

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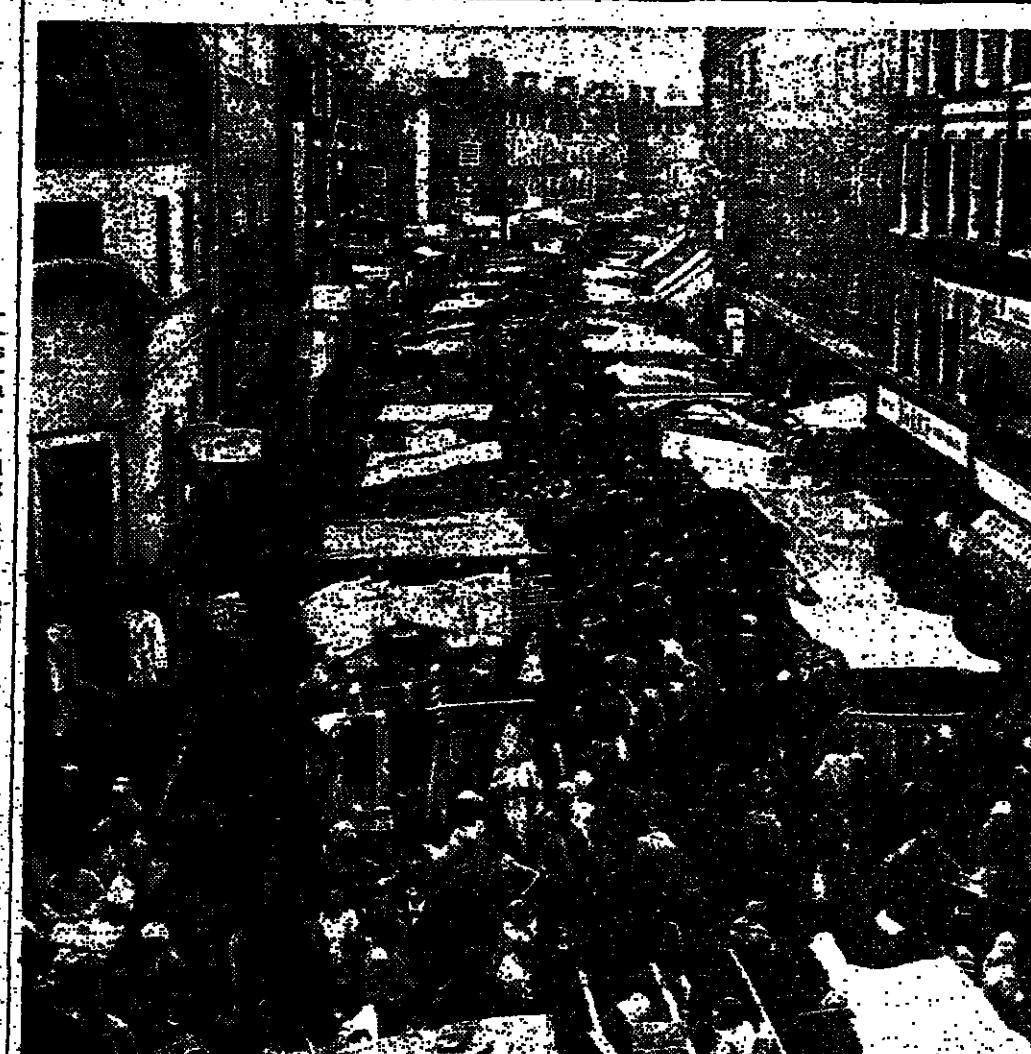
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A packed Petticoat Lane market on the last shopping Sunday before Christmas.

## Christmas rush starts on roads

The Christmas rush on the roads built up yesterday after a slow start on Friday. There was a four-mile queue on the north-bound carriageway of the M1. As accident on the south-bound carriageway, just south of the M10 intersection, caused a seven-mile tailback.

Many minor accidents on the M1 were reported - and the Automobile Association said that motorists were driving too fast and too close together.

Many petrol stations, including some on motorways, will be closed on Christmas Day and the morning organizations warned drivers to make sure they had enough fuel for the journey. More stations should be open on Boxing Day but there will still be a limited service.

Housewives who decided to wait until the last minute to buy the turkey for Christmas should find bargains today. Prices are at their lowest for some years.

After slow business at Smithfield Market, London, butchers will be selling off some birds at 40p to 50p a lb, about half the retail price in the high street shops where fresh birds are fetching up to 85p a lb.

The glut of turkeys this year will mean that many producers will be selling off some birds from the market.

Punters who gambled that London will have its first white Christmas for 10 years will probably be disappointed, the London Weather Centre said yesterday.

The forecast for today is rain and sleet. "The rain or sleet will probably have gone by Christmas morning. There is just a possibility there will be a sprinkle of snow in the capital, but the chances are very small," a forecaster said.

Four generations of the Royal family will be represented at a house party of 32 at Windsor Castle for Christmas.

They will include the youngest baby, Lord Frederick Windsor, son of Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, who will be 80 next year.

The Queen left London on Thursday to prepare a traditional programme of festivities for her guests, who begin arriving at the weekend.

Though the unofficial action by some Post Office van drivers in central London continued yesterday, the Post Office confirmed that all Christmas mail dates should be delivered on time.

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But he said his participation was not raised in the latest talks with the Iranian Foreign Minister. Mr MacBride said he planned to leave Tehran for Dublin tomorrow. He would not be visiting the hostages.

They have been held since the embassy was stormed by student followers of Ayatollah Khomeini seven weeks ago today.

A well-informed Roman Catholic source said here that the hostages had been moved from the embassy to an unidentified spot in Tehran.

The students had long talks with a representative of the Roman Catholic Church regarding preparations for priests to visit the hostages on Christmas Eve.

"The hostages are no longer in the embassy but we may not say where they are being held," the source said.

Unconfirmed reports indicated that the hostages may have been moved to the model prison in Vin, north-west of Tehran.

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## Tehran mediator sees little hope of early release for hostages

Tehran, Dec 23. — Mr Sean MacBride, the former Irish Foreign Minister, emerged from talks here today on the American hostages crisis and said he was not optimistic that an early solution would be found.

Mr MacBride said after a working lunch with Mr Sadeq Ozbazadeh, the Iranian Foreign Minister: "There are no positive developments. I'm not particularly optimistic."

Earlier it was reported that the 50 American hostages being held by Iranian students had been moved from the embassy.

Mr MacBride, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, who first came to Iran a month ago to try to negotiate an end to the crisis, arrived last night and went straight to the Foreign Ministry for two hours of talks with Mr Ozbazadeh.

Asked if the position had changed since he was last in Iran, Mr MacBride said: "I'm inclined to think things are worse."

He said forthcoming elections in Iran and the United States were contributing to an entrenchment of views in both countries.

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Cardinal Duval, the Archbishop of Algiers, who for 35 years has worked for understanding between the Christian and Muslim worlds, will arrive here tomorrow to visit the hostages, a diplomatic source said.

The Cardinal, who was invited by the Iranian Foreign Ministry, said in Algiers today that he would not be a mediator between the United States and Iran but would show "brotherly love for people who are suffering."

The frail 76-year-old clergyman was made Cardinal in 1965 in recognition of his work for closer relations between Islam and Roman Catholicism. He is a friend of Pope John Paul II, whom he knew in Poland.

Ayatollah Khomeini reiterated, in a meeting in the holy city of Qom yesterday with a group of French parliamentarians, that those of the hostages thought to be spies "will be tried in this big international trial."

More than 20,000 workers from Tehran's industrial belt today marched on the embassy to demand that the hostages be tried.

Clergymen leave: Two groups of American clergymen were on their way to Iran today, one to officiate at Christmas services for the hostages, the other to seek their release (David Cross writes from Washington).

The first group of six clergymen, representing the Baptist, Methodist and Episcopal churches, left New York last night for talks with Iranian leaders.

A spokesman for the delegation said that the Iranian authorities had been "exceedingly receptive and helpful to us on our plans," but he declined to say exactly what his group had in mind.

The other delegation of three clergymen, led by Rev William Howard, the black President of the National Council of Churches, which represents 32 Protestant and Orthodox denominations, was leaving the United States tonight on what is described as "a strictly religious and pastoral mission."

A spokesman said the clergymen were not going to negotiate with the Iranians but to help the hostages celebrate Christmas. Their visit was authorized by Ayatollah Khomeini at the end of last week.

Ayatollah blamed, page 4

## Man who spied for Guy Burgess may have been recruited by Prof Blunt

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## Met urged to X pensions

There is being put on the table a Conservative-backed pension committee for the under-25s and other public employees as part of a Conservative proposal that could be spending by more than £1.5 billion in next year's budget.

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## Muzorewa gunmen blamed for attack

Bishop Muzorewa's men staged the weekend shooting at Mr Mugabe's former home in Salisbury, according to Mr Nkomo, speaking in Lusaka. He was planned to look at Mr Nkomo's men were involved, thus splitting the Patriotic Front.

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## Russians alarmed by US 'threats'

The Russians appear to be increasingly alarmed by what they see as American threats in all parts of the world. Separate articles in three Soviet newspapers criticized United States interference in Afghanistan, South-east Asia and elsewhere.

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## HOME NEWS

## 'Reverse and absurd' water charges act may be repealed

Christopher Warman

Government is considering repealing the Water Equalization Act, 1977, which has been described as 'reverse and absurd'.

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## Tuning in to a change of policy at Cardiff

From Tim Jones

When Cardiff Broadcasting, the second independent radio station in Wales, comes on the air next year its progress will be closely followed by interested parties throughout Britain.

For the station represents a radical change of policy for the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which has previously granted franchises to wholly professional media men backed by big money who pursue success on a mixture of pop and prattle.

Cardiff Broadcasting claims to be Britain's first truly community radio because it guarantees listeners the opportunity of influencing the type of programmes to be broadcast.

The franchise was won after the biggest battle for any independent radio station in the history of Capital Radio, London. The successful group, labelled left-wing by its detractors, beat off challenges from the highly funded Radio Cardiff Group and from a consortium chaired by Sir George Stanger.

Cardiff Broadcasting was born when a few people involved in the media, community work and the arts decided to try for the franchise and presented Lady Florence, chairman of the IBA, and her board members with a package quite different from the usual application.

Its most startling departure was a proposal that listeners should have effective legal control of the station. After a series of public meetings six of the company's directors were elected at a further public meeting to represent the community, and six more were elected by 30 investors.

Money was raised by offering half the shares at £1 each to financial investors, which included a large number of the remaining 30 investors to members of a second company, called the Cardiff Broadcasting Trust.

This trust is the body that will guarantee effective listener control of the station. Every two years community elections will be held for two directors so that each director will serve for three years.

These community elections will be open to all individuals and bona fide organizations within the broadcasting area. Cardiff Broadcasting's competitors were shaken when the franchise was granted to what is, in effect, a non-profit distributing trust, but concede that the IBA's choice was in line with the Annan proposals on the future of local radio.

Although its programme schedules have yet to be published, it is apparent that music will take second place when the station goes on the air. One programme will apparently allow the public to broadcast their own news reports.

The leader of one unsuccessful group said: "This is the twentieth station, but the first experimental one. The other 19 have all been run by commercial consortia. I only hope it comes off. The point is that they are in a very large commercial world and advertisers are only after the ratings."

20 hurt in river disco accident

Twenty people were taken to Greenwich District Hospital after the Swanage Queen, a floating Thames discotheque ran into the river bank early yesterday.

None of the injuries were serious.

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## 'Big dish', built for £670,000 in 1957, would now cost £15m, Sir Bernard Lovell says Jodrell Bank telescope 'is good for another 20 years'

From John Chatter

Jodrell Bank, Cheshire

The Jodrell Bank radio telescope, built more than twenty years ago and originally valued at an estimated £150,000, is good for at least another twenty years, according to its creator, Sir Bernard Lovell, whose impending retirement has just been announced.

The "big dish" standing on the Cheshire Plain near Chelford, built in an atmosphere of argument and controversy over its cost and other factors, is still one of the most sought-after scientific instruments in the world, Sir Bernard told *The Times*.

It has carried out 130,000 hours of research, operating for 24 hours a day at a net cost of about £10 an hour, and is visited by about 100,000 people every year.

It cost £670,000 to build in 1957 and Sir Bernard was in dire trouble at the time with the Public Accounts Committee — at one stage he thought he faced imprisonment — for alleged overspending of the Government's share of the money.

He puts the cost of building a similar telescope today at £15m. When he first promoted the idea in 1949 he was talking in terms of between £50,000 and £60,000.

Sir Bernard is to be succeeded in the dual posts of Professor of Radio Astronomy and Director of the Nuffield Radio Astronomy Laboratories at Manchester University by Dr. C. R. R. Chatter, now director of the Royal Greenwich Observatory.

Dr Smith is being released from his present post by the Science Research Council in the world of science, but will not be able to take up his new appointment until April 1, 1982.

Sir Bernard Lovell, who is approaching the academic retiring age of 67, is due to leave next year but is delaying his retirement until October, 1981.

The prime purpose of the Jodrell Bank telescope has always been to add to man's knowledge of the Universe by recording radio emissions from bodies in space (first seen but not recognized by radar operators in the 1940s).

But it was its "secondary role" in tracking satellites and space vehicles that brought it world fame and importance and, incidentally, rescued Sir Bernard, his colleagues and the whole programme from the barrage of attacks and criticism they were facing.

The launching of Sputnik I on October 4, 1957, came soon after the commissioning of the telescope, and eight days later Jodrell Bank was tracking the launching rocket, an occasion Sir Bernard recalls as probably the most exciting of his life.

"For nearly a year we had to try to deal with a hostile press," Sir Bernard said. "From then on it became quite the reverse. Even this produced some tensions and anxiety, however, for the press always arrived here in very large numbers when anything exciting was happening in space."

Such exciting events included the first American attempt to hit the Moon in October, 1958, and the successful Russian launching of Lunik 2, which got there in September, 1959.

March 11, 1960, Sir Bernard recalls, was "an epic day" in the history of Jodrell Bank. The telescope had the task of transmitting the signal to the American Pioneer V "deep space probe" to release it from its carrier rocket after it had been launched from Cape Canaveral, and then to continue sending command signals to it.

The newspaper's present offer, repeated in yesterday's issue, for its own *World Diary*, 1980, published in association with Thomas Cook "at only £8.75, saving about £2 on shop prices."

Other advertisements in newspapers have taken to making price comparisons with insurance valuations. Though such valuations may be bona fide, the comparisons are outlawed by Article 3 (1) (a) of the order.

In shops where the previous selling price is crossed out and the sale price, put in, the goods, under the Trade Descriptions Act, should have been offered by the same company at the old price for at least 28 consecutive days in the previous six months.

But more shops are evading that requirement by displaying signs saying that the goods have not been on sale at the higher price. Such disclaimers are perfectly legal, branches of Burton's, the tailors, are among shop displaying disclaimers during their sales.

The new price marking order adds a further requirement which cannot be disclaimed, that the higher price should have been charged at least once in the ordinary course of business.

But many local authority trading standards officers who have to enforce the order regard this section as inoperable, as they are required to prove that the trader has never even agreed a sale price, after making one at the higher price.

The new regulations also make illegal comparison with manufacturers' recommended retail prices for beds, domestic electrical appliances, consumer goods, carpets and furniture.

The Government accepted that consumers were being misled by comparisons in those sectors, but in spite of its ban, which came into force on December 10, manufacturers' recommended prices were still being quoted on Saturday in some electrical shops in Tottenham Court Road and Kingsland High Street, Hackney, both in London.

Comparisons with recommended prices are still permitted in other areas where confusion is possible, because recommended prices bear little relation to those actually charged, including for example toys and games.

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## Shops confused over new sale price rules

By Robin Young

Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Bargain offers in the Christmas sales this year may not always be what they seem. Although the Government has introduced new regulations on price marking, which will be enforced by the Office of Fair Trading, there is still widespread confusion about the rules, which are being widely disregarded.

It is illegal, for instance, for shops to display notices suggesting that no refunds will be given on sales goods, but in a day's shopping in north London last week I found three shops where such notices were on show.

As a further test I asked 10 shopkeepers whether they thought they would be entitled to display such a notice if they wished. Eight thought they would.

Under more recent government orders it has been illegal since July 2 to make imprecise price comparisons.

The categories of claim outlawed include "price elsewhere" claims, such as "£10 on normal shop prices" and "Up to 50 per cent off".

In spite of these prohibitions, such claims are still to be found and it is some indication of the degree of confusion that *The Observer* newspaper, which yesterday carried an article about "the rules of the sales game", itself has been a persistent offender.

Newspapers' special offers are subject to the pricing regulations. *The Observer* has had several offers in successive issues in recent weeks in terms of which breach the Price Marking (Bargain Offers) Order, 1979.

They included a Tower Slo-Cooker at £18.95 "saving up to £2 on shop prices"; a microscope "saving up to £2 on shop prices"; travel slippers "saving about £3.30"; Christmas lights "up to £1.10"; and an offer of copper watering cans and troughs "saving on shop prices" "about £1.50" and "about £2".

In the case of the Tower Slo-Cooker several electrical shops in fact were selling the same appliance at lower prices than *The Observer's* offer.

The newspaper's present offer, repeated in yesterday's issue, for its own *World Diary*, 1980, published in association with Thomas Cook "at only £8.75, saving about £2 on shop prices."

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## Doctors call for law on barbiturates

By Frank Wells

Medical Correspondent

Britain's doctors say that the police should have the same powers to control the illegal use of barbiturate drugs as they have where heroin is concerned.

Dr. Frank Wells, medical secretary of the British Medical Association, said yesterday that all branches of the medical profession, family doctors, consultants and junior doctors, had agreed that barbiturates should come under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Dr Wells, who has led a fight against barbiturates, as he did earlier against amphetamines, said the Advisory Committee on the Misuse of Drugs would be informed. It should think about action within three months.

"It means drug squads will be able to take action against unlawful possession of barbiturates and trafficking, just as they do for heroin and other narcotics and amphetamines. That had not been possible before because so many barbiturate sleeping tablets were being prescribed lawfully."

"We have succeeded in convincing doctors that they should prescribe other less dangerous drugs. Barbiturates will still be needed in special cases, for treating epilepsy, for example, but the amounts have been reduced to the point where they are controllable."

"Barbiturates are addictive and lethal. Young people have been killing themselves with them."

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State at the Home Office, said in the Commons on Friday that barbiturate abuse was numerically a larger issue than heroin in the United Kingdom.

First, it illustrates the presence of a profound disagreement within the normally solid ranks of the agricultural lobby. Second, it may well influence the pattern of farming in England and Wales for more than a generation.

The extent of the disagreement has been carefully veiled. The Act provides for the first time for the heirs of tenants in England and Wales to succeed to the holdings rented by their dead parents or other relatives.

The Act was a response to claims that some heirs of tenants had been treated unfairly. Before the Act a landlord whose tenant died after his family had farmed a holding for centuries could evict the tenant's heirs even though their ancestors might have worked the land well for generations before the land had been bought by the present owner.

Farmers are always suspicious of new landlords who are not themselves farmers. The Act was widely welcomed by tenants but criticized by landowners on two grounds. First, it deprived landowners of the right to dispose of their land as they wished. Their objection has been well publicized. The second has not.

It was that landowners considered that tenants were shamelessly eager to seize upon the Act as a means of building into their tenancy agreements a degree of security which was not present when they signed them and for which they had not paid.

Landowners have a strong lobby in the Country Landowners' Association. There is no separate organization for tenants, but they have been ably represented by the National Farmers' Union whose membership also includes many owners.

They issued a joint statement in November after bargaining for more than a year about the need to change the inheritance sections of the 1976 Act. They said that they both agreed that "a major factor causing the decline of the agricultural landlord/tenant system has been the penal and discriminatory taxation on private landlords which they have both asked the Government to end."

It certainly did not take them a year to agree about that; they could have done so in the first 10 minutes of their first bargaining session. The official version of their disagreement is that the association offered concessions on fixing farm rents if the union would accept that the inheritance rules for new tenancies would last for one generation instead of the present three. The union, however, would not accept that the Act should be diluted in that way.

The extent of their disagreement is much deeper and wider than that, however. Evidence for that can be found in comments about the Northfield committee on the ownership and occupancy of farmland. The committee published a long and confused report in July.

Some 18 months ago Lord Northfield, chairman of the committee, told the Farmers' Club in London: "What the NFU are putting to us is this: if an estate is put on the market the tenants should have a pre-emptive right to buy their holdings rather than that they should go automatically to auction."

Humberts, the land and estate agents, said about the Northfield report: "It must be right to discard a pre-emptive right for tenants to buy. It would put about £600 an acre at present levels in their pockets, an almost immoral gain which could totally disrupt an estate and make the position of the landlord impossible."

Clearly, there is a lack of harmony in the agricultural organizations. The Northfield report by the NFU shows that the union has adopted an uncompromising line on behalf of tenants, and that it disagrees with the Country Landowners' Association on several points.

"There is no evidence that new forms of tenancy would result in more lettings of land, and there is concern that the fear of a legislative tit-for-tat would prejudice landlord-tenant relations more than a continuation of the status quo," the union said.

The CLA responded: "Changes in agricultural holdings legislation are essential to stimulate new lettings and to restore the balance between landlord and tenant, making sure that the law is fair to both."

The union also commended the working of the 1976 Act and could see "no need for statutory rules on eligibility and suitability." It believed that any consideration of changes to the rules in the Act for existing tenancies should await the decision of the House of Lords in the cases of *Williamson v Thompson* and *Carpenter v Jackson* v Hall.

Those are the decisions which were reached last week. In each case they went against the union in its case of clarifying the rules for eligibility to inherit tenancies in favour of landlords.

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## WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

## Moscow accuses US of trying to be world gendarme

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, Dec 23

The Russians, who constantly ridicule talk of any Soviet threat to the West, appear increasingly alarmed by what they see as an American threat in all parts of the world.

A Soviet military commentator today accused the Americans of "global hegemonism" — a phrase usually reserved for the Chinese — and said Washington was now trying to play the role of the world's gendarme.

He said the Americans considered not only the Western hemisphere as their exclusive territory, but also described West Europe and the Middle East as "vitally important strategic zones".

Accusing the Americans of hegemonism is tantamount to equating their policies with those of the Chinese, which the Russians daily denounce with deep-seated loathing.

A commentary in the military newspaper *Red Star* said that before his election President Carter had promised to reduce arms sales and to prohibit military intervention in the internal affairs of other countries. But his years in office had proved this was "pure demagoguery".

The newspaper said: "Based on a new global policy of force, a readiness to undertake military intervention in the various parts of the world has become ever more apparent. The United States' yearning to play again the role of the world's gendarme is now quite transparent."

*Red Star* attributed this new

policy of hegemonism to Dr Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's national security adviser, and said it epitomized the view of American ruling circles that the United States had the right to decide the fate of all mankind.

Two other Soviet papers today gave instances of what they saw as American interference in various parts of the world. *Pravda* said the Americans were working to overthrow the Government of Afghanistan, which is linked to Moscow by a treaty of friendship.

"The dream of sowing poisonous seeds of mistrust in the relations between the Soviet and Afghan peoples, of isolating the young Afghan republic from its real friends and of creating conditions for open interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs," *Pravda* said.

The paper said the anti-Afghan activities of the American and other espionage and sabotage services were a crude interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

*Sovetskaya Industriya* accused the Americans of trying to transform the Association of South-East Asian Nations into a military-political bloc to replace the defunct South-East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO).

"Hardly a month passes without American officials paying a visit to the area to befuddle the Asian leaders. Their favourite topic is invariably the so-called 'Soviet menace' which, they allege, is aggravated by a military threat from socialist Vietnam."

## Soviet build-up in Kabul worrying Washington

From David Cross  
Washington, Dec 23

The United States has voiced its fears that a steady build-up of Russian troops in and near Afghanistan could transform the country from a buffer state between East and West into a fully-fledged Soviet satellite.

This in turn would pose long-term security threats to neighbouring countries such as Iran and Pakistan, the Administration here believes.

The Administration's views on the increased Soviet presence in the area were conveyed to reporters by a senior State Department official during an unusual weekend briefing.

The briefing was arranged after a series of disclosures by State Department officials about the build-up during the past fortnight.

He said that in recent weeks Moscow had flown the equivalent of an airborne regiment totalling about 1,500 combat troops to an airbase near the Afghan capital of Kabul.

The arrival of the paratroopers had brought the number of Soviet military personnel in the country to some 5,000 troops and advisers. In addition, another 30,000 troops had been moved up to the Soviet border with Afghanistan.

The introduction of Soviet combat units on this scale and the suppression of a wide-spread resistance movement is very naturally an issue of concern to us," the official said.

Senior administration officials had complained three or four times to the Soviet authorities about the growing Soviet military role, he added.

Commenting on the conflict in Afghanistan, the official said that the Afghan rebels had embarked on a "remarkably spontaneous revolution" motivated by Islamic and traditional sentiments. "They have taken up arms against a government they consider both repressive and dominated by the Soviet Union."

Conceding that Washington had been surprised by the "resurgence" of the Afghan resistance, the official said that the 35,000 Soviet troops and advisers were probably too few to mount a full-scale counter-insurgency campaign throughout the country.

Washington believed that if the troops on the border were sent into Afghanistan, they would probably be used to secure certain key strategic positions in the country, leaving the 50,000-strong Afghan Army free for direct combat with the rebels. So far there was no evidence to suggest that Soviet troops had confronted the insurgents militarily.

The official said there appeared to be no direct link between the Soviet build-up and the crisis in United States-Iranian relations.

He pointed out, however, that Pakistan had long expressed concern about Moscow's traditional policy of seeking access to the Indian Ocean through various parts of south-west Asia. "So when you see a step like that being taken in a country like Afghanistan — changing the character of the country — it moves the potential threat to Pakistan, Iran and the others one step forward," he said.

## Big swing from Mr Kennedy to Mr Carter

New York, Dec 23.—President Carter, who trailed Senator Edward Kennedy in opinion polls until recently, now has a lead of between 33 and 53 per cent among Democrats and independent voters, a Time magazine survey has shown.

Calling the switch: "One of the most dramatic turnabouts in modern American political history," Time said there has been a shift of 63 percentage points in the President's favour in only four months.

Mr Carter's gains were attributed in part to his handling of the crisis in Iran, and in part to Senator Kennedy's handling of his campaign since he announced his candidacy.

Two-thirds of those polled said they thought Mr Carter's approach to the crisis was "just right". Three-quarters disapproved of Mr Kennedy's recent outspoken criticism of the deposed Shah.—Reuter.

## Pope castigates greed of oil suppliers

Rome, Dec 23.—The Pope has said the greed of oil suppliers is a major cause of the world's economic crisis.

The pontiff said the greed of oil suppliers was a major cause of the world's economic crisis.

He made no specific reference to oil but Vatican observers interpreted his words as a criticism of the drastic rise in oil prices.

"I think of the suffering caused by the anonymous mass of humble people in every country, caused by unexpected variations in international commercial affairs, stemming from the greed of certain suppliers who provoke increasing costs for the most basic necessities of life, producing grave discomforts in family and social life," the Pope said.

He said the Pope was



With the crises of the Rhodesian talks behind him, Lord Carrington finds peace relaxing on his Buckinghamshire farm.

## Mr Nkomo says Muzorewa gunmen staged shooting

Lusaka, Dec 23.—Mr Joshua Nkomo today accused Bishop Abel Muzorewa's men of attacking the former home in Salisbury of Mr Robert Mugabe, who with Mr Nkomo leads the Patriotic Front.

Three unidentified Africans shot at the Mugabe home with automatic guns yesterday, wounding two of Mr Mugabe's nephews.

In a speech after his return from signing the Rhodesia ceasefire agreement in London, Mr Nkomo said Bishop Muzorewa's men had staged the attack to make it look as if Mr Nkomo's gunmen were involved, and thus split the Patriotic Front alliance. He called on Lord Soames, the new British Governor, to stop further attacks by routing up the auxiliary forces and putting them in special camps.

"Until that is done, incidents like yesterday's will continue to happen," he said.

A Zambian Government delegation and more than 2,000 of Mr Nkomo's followers gave him a rousing welcome. About 60,000 refugees and guerrilla fighters of Mr Nkomo's Zim-

babwe African Peoples' Union (Zapu) have used Zambia as a base during the Rhodesia bush war.

Speaking to his followers, Mr Nkomo paid tribute to "the heroic stand of our people" against imperialism and exploitation. He thanked international organizations and countries, particularly the socialist states of East Europe and Zambia, which had helped the Patriotic Front.

Consistent with the war in Rhodesia with liberation struggles in other parts of Southern Africa, Mr Nkomo declared: "We fought together against the white-minority Government of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, we fought to get Zambia to get Zimbabwe, and we shall fight together to get South Africa."

He later told journalists that he would return to Salisbury "in the very near future" but would first spend a few days in the Zambian capital.

Asked about the Patriotic Front's plans for the Rhodesian elections, Mr Nkomo said: "We have fought the war as

an alliance, we shall fight the elections as an alliance."

He promised equal treatment for all in Rhodesia, regardless of colour: "Our war was not against white people, it was against an evil system. We shall not discriminate against white people who chose to stay in the country."

Asked what would happen to Bishop Muzorewa if he lost the election, Mr Nkomo said the Bishop could choose whether to leave the country.

"It is up to the police to decide who has committed crimes," he added, indicating the possibility of war crimes trials.

The Zapu leader also appealed to Britain to ensure that all South African troops left Rhodesia immediately.—Reuter.

Frederick Cleary writes from Salisbury that the first team of the 1,300-strong Commonwealth force monitoring the ceasefire and the Rhodesian general election moves into action today.

If fired on, the Commonwealth forces are instructed to protect themselves and their comrades. They could be outnumbered 60 to 1 by guerrillas.

From midnight on December 23 the small teams of lightly armed monitors will be at the Patriotic Front rendezvous points and assembly areas. The monitors will have no truncheons and the large white flag designed for anti-collecting point will be floodlit at night.

They will wait in their isolated tents behind a desk for the first guerrillas to come in. Patriotic Front leaders are to scan the bush near each designated area and use loud-hallers in an attempt to persuade guerrillas to come in, with their weapons, before the deadline of midnight on January 4.

Meanwhile the build-up of Commonwealth troops and supplies continues. The shift into Salisbury airport has become a big attraction for Rhodesians of all races. They gazed in awe at the first of the giant Galaxy transport jets lent by the United States Air Force, taxed in. This, the second largest aircraft in the world, is bigger than a 747 Boeing Jetliner.

Unauthorized meetings and demonstrations were held in black townships round the country over the weekend after

the Governor's lifting on Friday of the ban on the Zapu and Zanu parties of the Patriotic Front.

In Zengeza township, a few miles south of Salisbury, a crowd estimated at 20,000 saw several miles giving Black Power salutes, chanting and singing.

African sanctions: Tanzania today lifted economic sanctions against Rhodesia; the Foreign Ministry said in Dar-es-Salaam. The other "front-line states" supporting Patriotic Front guerrillas—Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique and Angola—had taken spontaneous action, it said.

President Samora Machel of Mozambique in announcing his country's ending of sanctions, disclosed that hundreds of Mozambique soldiers have been fighting in Rhodesia with the guerrillas.—Reuter and AP.

Russian protest: The Soviet Union has protested to the United Nations over the lifting by Britain and the United States of trade sanctions against Rhodesia. Only the Security Council could reverse its own decision, the Russians said.—Reuter.

## Shah's sister puts blame for deaths on Ayatollah

New York, Dec 23.—Princess Ashraf Pahlavi, the Shah of Iran's sister, today put the blame for the deaths of more than 700 people "whose only crime was to have cooperated with the old regime."

She made her accusation in an open letter to Dr Khomeini, the Islamic revolutionary leader, in which she accused him of ordering the execution of more than 700 people.

The princess said that to the official figures of more than 700 executions "we have to add the many thousands who have been deliberately butchered and lynched in all corners of Iran and whose deaths have never been reported anywhere."

She said she was astonished and saddened that Dr Khomeini had joined those who alleged that Iranians were denied human rights and subjected to other injustices under the Shah.

It was not clear which statements by Dr Khomeini she was referring to. The Secretary-General, while making approaches to Iranian officials in the hope of securing the release of American hostages, has publicly remained neutral on the Shah.

The princess said: "You know full well, Mr Khomeini, that Iran under the Pahlavis was a peaceful and prosperous nation, internationally acclaimed as a model of success in the developing world."

How is it possible in the United Nations to forgive the terrorist crimes committed by Mr Khomeini... when the principles of the charter of the United Nations?—AP.

More output: Mr Abol Hassan Bani-Hadadi, the Iranian Minister, said today that Iran would fight American economic sanctions by increasing production and decreasing consumption. This could constitute "the greatest economic revolution in the history of the world."

Mr Bani-Hadadi told reporters in Tehran that the Islamic republic would eliminate interest from the banking system—but not the entire economy—from March 21 next, the first day of the Iranian new year.

Sadat attack: President Sadat of Egypt said in an interview with French television that Ayatollah Khomeini was "a fanatic" and the seizure of the Sinai by Israel was "scandalous"—UPI.

## Ships damaged as storm lashes Naples

Naples, Dec 23.—Naples port authorities issued a new storm warning today as high seas and strong winds battered the city to buffet the Italian coast.

Extensive damage has been caused in the past two days in the Naples area. Nine ships are reported aground in and around the port, and six small coasters have suffered severe damage.

In Venice, the highest waters since the disastrous flooding of 1966 rolled into the city yesterday causing damage estimated at several million pounds.—Reuter.

## Stations sacked as train is late

Macerata, Italy, Dec 23.—About 300 out of 1,000 Italian emigrant workers returning from West Germany for the holiday season today sacked railway stations after their train was five hours late.

They abused four employees and overturned benches at the Porto Recanati station in Macerata province. Several hours later they sacked the Roseto station in Abruzzo province.

## Vatican rules consecration of Peking bishop illegal

Rome, Dec 23.—The consecration of a new bishop by the Catholic Church of Peking without the consent of the Holy See was illegal and hurt the Pope "very deeply" according to a Vatican spokesman.

The spokesman, the Rev. Romeo Panciroli, also said yesterday that the Vatican had received many telegrams and letters from Roman Catholic bishops and the faithful throughout the world who disapproved of the elevation of Mr. Michael Fu Tieshan, aged 48, an spiritual leader of Catholics in Peking.

China's Catholic Church has been persecuted from the Vatican since the 1949 Communist revolution and is known as the Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association. The new bishop was elected by a vote of the asso-

ciation members in Peking last summer.

Father Panciroli said: "The doctrine of the Church, and canon discipline do not consider legitimate, in any case, the nomination which comes about without the 'consensus' or approval of the Holy See. A consecration of this kind can only hurt the Pope very deeply."—UPI.

"Unjust" attitude: In Peking Mr. Fu Tieshan said the attitude of the Vatican towards an independent Chinese Church was "unjust" and called for autonomous churches for each world region.

He told foreign reporters that he hoped the Vatican would adopt a more realistic attitude towards his church's nationalist version of Catholicism.—UPI and Agence France Presse.

## Israel fears momentum has been lost

Tel Aviv, Dec 23.—The session that Egyptian officials had not attended last week but he acknowledged that some of his colleagues had the impression that they had lost momentum in the negotiations for peace in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The Cabinet at its weekly meeting in Jerusalem today heard reports on last week's talks in Cairo from Dr. Josef Burg, head of the Israeli negotiators, and Mr. Yosef Clehman, who discussed final details for normalisation which, under the peace treaty is to start on January 26.

Dr Burg told reporters after the session that Egyptian officials had not attended last week but he acknowledged that some of his colleagues had the impression that they had lost momentum in the negotiations for peace in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Israeli Cabinet Ministers are said to be uneasy about indications that Egypt may be showing down the normalization of relations because it is not satisfied with Israel's stance in the negotiations.

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## Armenian avengers' killed Turkish official in Paris

Paris, Dec 23.—The Turkish diplomat shot dead yesterday morning on the Champs Elysees in front of the famous "Fouquet" restaurant, was the victim of a self-styled "commando of Armenian avengers against genocide," and of the "new Armenian resistance."

Soon after the murder of Mr. Yilmaz Colpan, aged 31, press counsellor of the Turkish Embassy and director of the Turkish Tourist Office in Paris, a man saying he spoke for the group telephoned Agence France-Presse and declared in English: "We assume responsibility for the attack against the Turkish Embassy."

His organisation, he added, was negotiating for other attacks in Rome, Madrid, and Amsterdam.

"Our aim in killing Turkish political leaders in Europe is to obtain for Armenians those rights the Turkish Government refuses to grant them. We are not Communists and our group is opposed to all organisations which misuse the Armenian cause as an instrument of communist policy."

Mr Colpan had left his office on the Champs Elysees to buy newspapers at a kiosk near "Fouquet's," when a man aged between 25 and 30, with angular features and wearing grey trousers and a dark coat, came up to him.

According to the few witnesses about on that cold morning, he fired three shots point blank at the victim, and escaped down a side street. The Turkish diplomat collapsed on the pavement and died instantly.

Last July, the same "commando of avengers" claimed responsibility for a bomb attack against the offices of three Turkish organisations in Paris, in which one person was injured.

Last month, they directed their attacks against the premises of Turkish Airlines. Similar attacks have taken place in Rome and Madrid.

The Armenian nationalists demand reparations for the genocide perpetrated against their kinsfolk when in 1915 the Turkish government ordered the deportation of a million Armenians to Syria or Mesopotamia, and a large number of them were massacred in the process.

The Armenians demand condemnation of the genocide by the United Nations and restoration to the Armenians of their territories now occupied by the Turks.

Office bomb: An explosion at 5 am in what is usually one of the busiest shopping streets in Amsterdam, caused extensive damage to the Turkish Airlines offices, yesterday. (Robert Schell, chief from Amsterdam). No one was injured.

## 'Fat One' answers prayers with £40m

From Harry DeBeltus  
Madrid, Dec 23

Spain's failed 'Fat One' lottery, founded out of its last year's success, has been distributed. Gamblers on the outskirts of the Catholic Church of Our Lady of Fatima, in the town of Granollers, on the outskirts of Barcelona, were the big beneficiaries.

The 'Fat One' is Spain's oldest Christmas lottery, bigger than ever this century year which showered £200m in tens of thousands of cash prizes over Spain last Saturday, with prizes ranging from a gambler's money back up to £10,000 to 1.

It was a story-book draw, with results on a record of 10 minutes distributed. Gamblers on the outskirts of the Catholic Church of Our Lady of Fatima, in the town of Granollers, on the outskirts of Barcelona, were the big beneficiaries.

Most of them are factory workers from the poorest part of Spain. They had bought Christmas lottery shares in their pastor, Father Samper for the equivalent of 65p each on the understanding that the money would go towards the repair of the church roof and the rest represent their part of ticket number 40,226, held by the parish administrator.

Never before had El Go been so eager to pay out the huge prize won in the National Lottery Administration in Madrid.

Hardly had the boys of Telefonos School begun drawing the numbered wooden balls, one of which carried the last three digits of the winning ticket, when the balls with prize amounts painted on them from other games, before El Go appeared. Juan Carlos Peñalosa, aged 13, the school boy who was singing on the radio to a tune, his voice clear, sang his voice slip when he began to sing it.

All together, the Fat One scattered nearly £50m in Granollers, a town with a population of 15,000, and a majority of that went to parishioners of the town's Fatima Church, who for a 65p got £55.17. With the shares he kept for him Father Samper won more than £55,000.

"We're going to open a nursery, of that you can be sure," the priest said, really sober, because it closed, the one we had," was referring to a hall over by the town and used by parish as a day nursery. The town council recently claimed the building for its use.

One of the largest individual winners was a tailor Granollers, who bought a block of the parish-sponsored lottery shares. He won nearly £775,000.

The capricious El Go seemed determined this time to be extravagant with prizes to bring on modest success.

Señorita Sara Martinez, young shop assistant, quit her job in Granollers last week when she won about £69,000 the regular weekly state lottery. El Go gave another prize, worth twice as much as the previous one.

## Barre Government survives its tenth motion of censure

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Dec 23

A government able to survive 10 motions of censure in one parliamentary session would seem to have a solid parliamentary majority.

The government of M. Raymond Barre, which yesterday sailed through the last two motions the Opposition tabled with the same apparent ease as the previous eight, is in no danger of being overturned.

But its majority is a negative, rather than a positive one. The Gaullists, once again, have refused to support the Bill reforming the social security system, just as they did for the 1980 budget. But they have stopped short once more of bringing the government down, and did not join their votes to those of the Socialists and Communists.

"The Government majority exists. It is not present today because it has decided not to vote censure," M. Barre de-

clared, pointing to the empty benches of his supporters in the National Assembly.

"Because I know that this majority remains fundamentally united on its choice of society, I shall do nothing to divide it, or to divide one of the parties of that majority," he added, alluding to the Gaullists.

For the umpteenth time, he defended his Government's repeated use of Article 49 of the constitution, every time it considered that an important Bill must be approved. Under Article 49, a Bill is considered adopted without a vote unless it is rejected by a motion of censure.

"The feigned or genuine alarm of those who criticize it leaves me both serene and determined," he said. He recalled that prime ministers of the Fourth Republic, in whose 13 years of existence governments fell like ninepins, had longed for such a weapon, "to thwart fortuitous majorities

capable of wrecking, but incapable of constructing."

M. Joseph Franceschi, a Socialist spokesman, claimed that the use of Article 49 demonstrated that the Government had no majority. "That you do not draw the consequences of this is your affair," but that you institutionalize voting by default concerns the country because it involves democracy."

A Communist spokesman pitching the stakes just a little higher, accused the Government of "flouting democracy and insulting the voters."

This drew from M. Barre the stinging retort that "M. Franceschi (the prototype of the bourgeois and sentimental bourgeois) has won the elections which you lost."

The fact remains that President Giscard d'Estaing is concerned about the parliamentary situation and the discredit which repeated resort to purely symbolic motions of

censure and to the adoption of government Bills without a vote, cannot fail to bring upon a parliamentary institution never highly thought of by ordinary Frenchmen.

M. Jacques Chaban-Debras, the President of the Senate, warned the Government, while avoiding judgment on the use of Article 49, that "it is essential to restore the dignity of Parliament, by not compelling it to annual votes carried out in its wisdom after 15 days of long and painful debate" reference to the abortion Bill.

The hope at the Elysee Palace is that three months of parliamentary recess, which began with 48 hours' delay because of the last censure vote,

will inspire the Gaullists to greater wisdom and a better usage of the institution for which they were originally responsible.

The refusal to vote the budget, or the reform of the social security system, afflicted by a huge deficit, without at the same time accepting the logical consequences of that refusal by censuring the Government, is in its view a breach of the majority pact upon which the stability of the Fifth Republic rests.

The Gaullists themselves realize that their tactics, which consist in respecting the voters' choice of 1978, while dissociating themselves from the policies of the Government it produced, are not understood or appreciated by public opinion.

There are indications that next year, they will modify them, until such time as, they hope, events will have proved them right against M. Barre or his successor.

## Watchmen back in Madrid

Madrid, Dec 23.—Madrid traditional nightwatchmen returned to the streets last night carrying a baton and repellent spray instead of the customary set of keys.

The previous, once a month, night watchmen capri were disbanded three years ago because the old building, which at night could only be entered using their huge keys, had virtually disappeared. Reuter.



## OVERSEAS

## Army fights crime in Chinese provinces

Peking, Dec. 23.—Chinese authorities have called on the Army to impose law and order in nine provinces, and more executions, including that of the leader of an arms and drugs ring, have been carried out to try to control crime.

Local radio and other sources spoke today of "a very serious situation" in some towns, with "feudal armed fights between clans", while senior officials were warned not to cover up for the crimes of their children helping them to escape justice.

Provincial radio also said that a division of the Peking garrison is helping police to fight crime in the capital.

The nine provinces where the army had to intervene to help the police are Anhui, Henan, Shaanxi, Hebei, Fujian, Guangxi, Guangdong, Jilin and Xinjiang, ranging from the north-east to the extreme west, and from the south to the centre of the country.

In Shaanxi, especially at Yan'an, where the Communists settled after the long march of the 1930s—the railways were reported to be unsafe and armed bands had attacked police, while at Urumqi, in the west, troops were patrolling public places.

In Guangdong the frontier province bordering on Hong Kong, the deputy head of the local administration criticized those who were behind gang warfare as well as "feudal superstition" in the country.

The local radio at Kunming in the south-west said today that four people, including the leader of a smuggling gang, had been shot on December 10 after a trial and a mass meeting to judge 23 common criminals.

The sentences were preceded by a strong reminder from General Yang Dezhi, commander of the Kunming military region, to Army officers, "particularly high ranking ones" that they were forbidden to protect their children involved in criminal matters.

The appeal, made at the mass meeting of 5,000 people, was similar to one made in Anhui to Communist Party officials, and suggested to observers that at least some of the offenders were from influential families.

Other incidents, including "unbridled criminal activities" in Shandong province, according to the Governor, and "rather a lot of crimes" in Guizhou, according to the local newspaper, indicated to observers a sudden worsening of order in the provinces.

The authorities said today, without giving details, that the Supreme Court had put into effect a series of "regulations" for revising the death penalty, which has been widely used recently. Kunming radio reported exhortations to dissidents who have "pursued capitalist liberty" to fall into line.

Agence France-Presse and Reuters.

## Further reduction

Delhi, Dec. 23.—Indian civil servants who volunteer for sterilisation will pay half a per cent less interest on their home mortgages under a new government plan.

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## Indian politicians expect repeat of 'booth capturing' by armed gangs and violence in Bihar poll

From Richard Wigg  
Patna, Dec. 23.—The two wings of the split Janata party are waging "a holds barred" general election campaign in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to retain something of the 1977 triumph when together they swept up all the 139 seats, more than a quarter of the Lok Sabha, the Lower House.

While the organization of the right-wing Hindu nationalist Jana Sangh is behind the rump Janata party, the Lok Dal party of Mr Charan Singh the caretaker Prime Minister, looks highly vulnerable. The clear winner of the split vote ought to be Mrs Indira Gandhi, the former Prime Minister.

The Janata "wave" in 1977 was accompanied by serious election violence, particularly in Bihar where it is notorious, though, politically ignored by Delhi. With Janata split, electoral malpractices constitute a challenge which India's Election Commission is ill equipped to face.

The returning officers, all district magistrates, in 52 of Bihar's 54 parliamentary constituencies this weekend told the state Election Commission they fear "some sort of trouble" on polling day. Mr S. N. Mishra, the Minister of External Affairs, has even felt obliged to ask the commission for "special personal protection" in his Bihar constituency.

By contrast, in the Uttar Pradesh constituency of Mr Charan Singh, the Janata party has demanded special precautions of the Election Commission, alleging that Mr Charan Singh's farmers' caste which dominates the region, will simply not allow any Harijan (formerly untouchables) voters to get to the polls.

In 1977 there were 40 officially registered cases of election "booth captures", that is physical taking over of polling stations by armed gangs who, after throwing out the presiding officer and offi-

cial and any genuine voters, proceed to stamp the ballot papers and vote for the candidate who hired them.

The Janata Government, which took power in the state in the local elections which followed, has not punished anyone involved in those 40 admitted cases. Indeed, it is estimated that about a quarter of the state Assembly members had themselves been charged with law-and-order offences before their election gave them immunity.

Such facts in the home state of Mr Jagjivan Ram, the Janata leader, make his claim to his political broadness last night from Delhi that Janata has "restored the democratic freedoms" after Mrs Gandhi's emergency, sound hollow.

The Janata Government, headed by a Harijan protégé of Mr Ram, has just dismissed the Chief Secretary, the top civil servant in the state, who refused to permit the transfer of a

recurring officer to the constituency of the state Janata Party leader, who is also a leader of the Rajput, one of the dominant Hindu upper castes.

India's Chief Election Commissioner had issued a general order to prevent the drafting of "sensitive" officials into "sensitive" constituencies (where malpractices are feared) in the election run-off but the Bihar Cabinet defied him, approving the removal of the Chief Secretary.

The Delhi Commissioner's only reply was to order the state Government to make adequate police arrangements to prevent booth capturing next month.

The Election Commission has no power to suspend in future contests a parliamentary candidate it judges guilty of election malpractices and it depends on state governments to implement its orders.

Some 2,500 special booths among the total of 55,000 in the state have been set up in areas where Harijans predominate. It is an essential fact of Bihar's booth-capturing that it is practised by the higher castes against the weaker elements.

Mr Ram, the first Harijan to come within striking distance of the premiership, is contesting the Sasaram constituency, south of here, reserved for Harijan candidates which has returned him to Delhi every time since India's first general election in 1952.

Though Mr Ram introduced in Parliament the motion approving Mrs Gandhi's 1975 emergency, and did not leave her Government until a few weeks before its defeat in the 1977 poll, Janata have chosen him as the standard bearer. It is an alliance of the higher castes in the north Indian "cow belt"—Brahmins, Rajputs and Bhumihars—and the Harijans at the bottom of the Hindu social scale against the middle castes, the so-called "backward classes".

Former Amin soldiers freed from Ugandan prison

From Charles Harrison  
Nairobi, Dec. 23.—The Ugandan Government released a thousand detainees—most of them members of the Ugandan Army under former President Idi Amin—this weekend. They had been held without charge since the Amin overthrow in April.

There are still about 3,000 prisoners held without charge, mainly former members of the Amin intelligence and security services. The releases at the weekend have reduced crowding in Luzira Prison, which was designed to hold about 1,800 prisoners, but it is still too full.

The Ugandan Government appears to have accepted that it cannot bring charges against the former soldiers, but they have been warned not to create trouble, and not to try to join former Amin troops now in the Sudan and Zaire.

Uganda's National Consultative Council, the country's interim parliament, has accepted most of the Cabinet changes made last month by President Godfrey Binaisa, but has vetoed

## E Germans take goods from Polish shoppers

From Gretel Spitzer  
Berlin, Dec. 23.—East Germany took drastic steps to stop Poles from shopping in their country. The newspaper *Welt am Sonntag* reported today that in early December a train to Poland was halted in East Germany, surrounded by police with dogs and searched. Most of the goods which Polish travellers had brought in East Berlin were confiscated without any refund.

The newspaper related another incident a few days later when the passengers of a Polish bus met with similar treatment.

After the liberalization of traffic between Poland and East Germany the shopping sprees of Poles led to tension. Both governments took steps to prevent extensive purchases.

On arrival in East Germany the Poles are given a list of goods they should not buy. These include shoes, stockings, socks, children's underwear and clothes, sheets, towels, underwear, wallpaper, precious metals and stones, sugar and onions.

Two extraordinary veterans of the entertainment industry who could hardly be more different from one another are among the principal draws in this season's general of the campaign to lure entire families into the theatre to see a Christmas show.

In descending order of age, the first is Richard Golden who, at the age of 84, is once again playing the energetic role of Mr Mole in the golden jubilee production of *Toad of Toad Hall* at the Old Vic theatre in London. The second is Bobby Thompson who is a mere 70 and is doing a 13-minute solo comic turn in the middle of the pantomime *Cinderella*, a lavish new production at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle upon Tyne. I went to watch both shows in the final stages of rehearsal.

Richard Golden long since made a national reputation of himself as Mr Mole, a role he first played in 1930 in the initial London production (it first opened in Liverpool in 1929), though he still pursues a busy acting career elsewhere the rest of the year.

Bobby Thompson, by contrast, is a cult figure and a folk hero in that nation within a nation, the North-East of England, where he is known to all as "the little waster" (Geordie for waster), in honour of the ingenious, bawdy, witty idler he portrays in his act, which he mostly performs in the clubs of his native region. He was presented with a golden badge only this month to mark the enormous sales of his first comic record. Considering that rather less than 10 per cent of the British population can even understand his carefully cultivated Geordie, this represents an astounding commercial feat.

The diminutive former miller, who took to the boards at the age of 20 when his pit was closed, talks a lot about money on and off the stage. He is getting £2,500 a week for his pantomime spot. Linked to the "pit" (if that is not too strong a word in this context) by the most slender of slender threads, he is simply introduced by the turn of a phrase. Charming's ball and roll to get on with his act dressed in the usual cap and muffer which have become his trademarks.

We sat in the empty stalls and talked which a technical rehearsal was going on on the stage. "Why are you here to pull in the grown-ups?" he said. He told me a complicated joke about a boiled egg which space, dialect and various other considerations preclude me from repeating here, though it was extremely funny. I was unfortunately unable to understand him because I took a degree in Geordie at the university of life many years ago.

Thompson caused consternation in the orchestra pit when the time came later that day for him to rehearse the cues introducing and closing his part in the show. He asked the musical director, Mr Peter Day, to play "the Blyden Races", the Geordies' national anthem, as his introduction. Unfortunately nobody had told Mr Day that this was wanted, as he soon pungently made clear, but the musicians, like the good Tynesiders many

## S African held in atom secrets case

From Ray Kennedy  
Johannesburg, Dec. 23.—A young academic is expected to be charged soon with betraying South Africa's nuclear secrets to the banned African National Congress (ANC).

The man, a former student leader and Oxford PhD, has been arrested by security police after being watched since he returned to South Africa from abroad earlier this year.

It will be alleged that he gave reports to the ANC listing details of South Africa's first nuclear power station, which is being built with French help near Cape Town, as well as other nuclear developments, possibly including South Africa's secret uranium enrichment process.

He will probably be charged under the Arms and Explosives Act and could be fined 10,000 rands (£5,000), or sentenced to 20 years imprisonment or both.

South Africa has always maintained that its nuclear research is solely for peaceful purposes. Last year, the United States said that a satellite had detected what appeared to be a nuclear testing site in the Kalahari Desert. This year the American diplomats were expelled after the Ambassador's aircraft was found to have a "spy camera".

Reports of the change in which the Pol Pot was said to remain in the military command have been circulating in Bangkok for three days.

The Khmer Rouge ambassador in Peking said today that he had heard of impending Cabinet changes but did not know if they had been completed.

General Krissangkarn, Chairman of the Thai Prime Minister, said yesterday he had received a report about the supposed changes but there had been no confirmation.

Bangkok, Dec. 23.—The official Khmer Rouge radio today denied rumours that Mr Pol Pot had been reassigned. It made no mention of the reports of a change of leadership—Agence France-Presse.

Christmas Day which marks the first anniversary of Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea.

It is believed the objective of the attack would be to push more than half a million anti-Vietnamese Kampuchean civilians and soldiers, now one mile east of the border, across into Thailand.

Colonel Prachak Savangchit, commander of Thai forces along the frontier, said today that Vietnam had brought more artillery and tanks close to the border in recent days.

Thai anxieties were increased at the weekend by the most hostile verbal attacks by Hanoi for months. Thailand and Vietnam agreed in October to avoid direct criticism of each other.

Thailand and Vietnam agreed in October to avoid direct criticism of each other.

## Times Profile

## The mole of moles doesn't change his habits



Photographs by Harry Kane



Top: Bobby Thompson (left) and David Jason. Above: Richard Golden during rehearsals.

of them are, produced a perfect version from memory.

The secret of Thompson's success, apart from wit and sheer professionalism, lies in the way he captures the uncrushable spirit of defiance of the little man who has seen it all—slump, depression, war, industrial decline and unemployment—and suffered a lot, but somehow retains his sense of humour.

Golden too works hard and is a professional through and through, but he had a completely different, and rather easier, start in life, taking four gentle years to complete what he described as "a short course in French literature" at Oxford before joining the Oxford Playhouse.

When I spoke to him, he was wearing a voluminous brown overcoat, red muffer, brown sports jacket with a luminous green handkerchief flopping from the top pocket, purple shirt, greenish corduroy trousers, brown bow tie, brown fur hat, heavy black boots and was carrying an ancient, silver-topped Portuguese cane. Not a man to miss in a crowd, even if he is rather small in stature. We were in the venerable rehearsal room at the top of the Old Vic building, which looks like nothing so much as an abandoned Territorial Army drill hall, if a little less luxurious.

To put it bluntly, the mole of moles in this year of moles is not a man who changes any of his habits lightly. He can't remember how often he has played this part, but must be in the higher twenties. He has lived in the same house in Chelsea, London, for 55 years (for the preceding 29 he lived in one house in Paddington) and he takes his holidays in the same village in Picardy, which he got to know during the First World War, year after year.

If he has the choice, he told me, he will die in harness (if he ever dies). "I don't have any plans to retire," he said. "I have always lived alone except for my housekeeper, who died recently. I do all the repairs at home. No, I've never married, and I think it might be a bit late now."

Although it is brand new, the Newcastle "Cinderella" has an interesting history. It is supposed to be the first time that a subsidized theatre company, the Tynewear from Sunderland, and a "commercial" theatre, the Royal (which is in fact owned by Newcastle City Council who also cover its annual deficit), have come together to put on a pantomime from scratch.

The Tynewear built the sets and made the costumes and the Royal assembled the cast. Two directors, both called John to make confusion worse confounded, one from each company, worked in harness on the show, which did not seem to suffer as a result.

The Royal's general manager, Mr Michael Grayson, said it had cost about £150,000 to put the show on, money he hoped would be recouped by selling it as a going concern to other theatres for Christmas seasons to come. Many pantomimes are put on for 20 years in succession, or even longer. "And they look it," said Mr Grayson. "Some of them are so

cheap and nasty that they swindle the public. I would hope our show will last for six or eight years."

The show has a new book and new music but conforms to the classic pantomime pattern. Cinderella, of course, doubles up on the transvestism which is a feature of all pantomimes: not only the Prince but also his equestrary, Dandini, are females dressed as males, and there are two "dames" in the shapes, buttressed by "Bristols" as they are known in the trade, of the Ugly Sisters, who are of course male.

David Jason, an accomplished and experienced light actor on stage, television and radio, finds himself in the lead in the first pantomime he has ever played in. "I'm terrified," he said (and his nerves often showed when things went wrong in rehearsal even though the plot intends them to go). He plays Buttons, while Leah Bell, a tiny singer with a powerful voice and of local origin, plays Cinderella.

It is such a luxury appearing in a new show; which, however, made for me from new. I usually find I have to fasten the skirts under my armpits because the one thing they won't let you do with costumes is cut them. You can only pin them up. I feel sorry for whoever takes over from me in future years.

It was a curious experience to sit in the stalls watching a talented cast at work playing for laughs they did not know they would get until the first night. A few temporarily idle actors, technicians and others did their best to supply the shouts of "behind you!" and "Oh no he hasn't!" expected of the children once the show starts. It's a bit bloody difficult," said Jason, "cracking a joke and trying to get the timing right when there are only four people in the auditorium who have heard it 60 times before and can only come out with a 'Ha, ha'."

The cast of the Old Vic have few problems. Apart from Golden, several other principal players have been in it several times before. Ian Talbot, for example, is starring his seventh season as Mr Toad when the show opens tonight. "I never dreamed I would be playing this part at the Old Vic," he said. "Every actor wants to appear here and I certainly don't mind that it is 'Toad' that has given me the change for the first time. It is a marvelous show."

At a rather earlier stage in rehearsal, and even though it was the first run-through in the theatre auditorium itself, the Old Vic cast were rather further into their stride than the Newcastle company two days before opening on December 16, when I saw them. "Toad" has the inestimable advantages of being well-used and of a script by A. A. Milne. It looked as fresh 50 years on as "Cinderella".

For all the work of the hundreds involved in preparing these two disasters, shows for me this Christmas season will always remain the year of the two, and old men of the entertainment business without whom neither show would have been quite what it turned out to be.

For all the work of the hundreds involved in preparing these two disasters, shows for me this Christmas season will always remain the year of the two, and old men of the entertainment business without whom neither show would have been quite what it turned out to be.

Dan van der Vat



















Bernard Levin says this column is not about smoking

## Introducing the Bisto Kid

I remember, for instance, a very swish set, probably by Kensitas, which consisted of real photographs, of scenery in Britain; I wish I had kept that one...

I know what I want to find in my smoking tomorrow; nor do I begrudge the extra cost the present will involve me in, which is the price of a large handkerchief, the purpose of which will be to mop up the tears of nostalgia that the thing will provoke.

A firm called Foster-Catler, in Hatfield, has had the idea of buying a large collection of sets of cigarette-cards, framing them, and selling the result (each set split between two frames) as pictures to hang on the wall. The illustration in the advertisement looked charming, but to tell you the truth I don't really want them framed at all; the backs of the cards are, to me, quite as important as the fronts, and, anyway, I want to handle them.

I suppose I had better pause here and explain to my younger readers what I am talking about, as they will certainly have no means of knowing if I don't. In 1930, cigarette manufacturers, to promote their brands, included in each pack of their product a card, measuring some 2½ inches by 1½. On the verso, there was a picture; on the verso, a text concerning the illustration. There was also a number from one to 50; and therein lies the heart of the matter.

For the cards were not designed with random interest in mind; each set of 50 had a theme of its own, and the idea from the cigarette manufacturer's point of view was that the collector would want to complete the set and would therefore have to go on buying cigarettes until he had done so. And this might be quite a long time, because, although as far as I know the number of copies of each card of a set was the same, there was nothing on the outside of the packet to indicate which card was inside.

In practice, I suppose, most of the collecting was done not by the smokers but by the smokers' children. The only smoker in my home was my grandfather (though he was a 50-a-day man, lived to be 84, and used his very last breath not to speak memorable words but to take a puff on a cigarette); his preferred brand was Kensitas, which I seem to remember went in for some rather classic cards than the other manufacturers, including one spectacular set not of cards but of leaves of silk, on which were reproduced the flags of the nations. But if one's smoking relations stuck to a single brand, the scope for card-collecting in the family circle was limited, and there was only one solution. We used to hang about the doorways of tobacco shops, and accost emerging purchasers with a cry of "Got any cigarette-cards, mister?"

This, no doubt, conjures up for you a picture so startling that you find it difficult to believe. Reckless Jack Levin, the man of many socks, you are familiar with; Levin the gourmet and bibber of fine wines, you likewise know; Levin the wit and man-about-town, the glass of fashion and the mould of form, the observed of all observers, is no less a byword among you. Levin the Bisto Kid, however, is another matter.

Well, *tempora mutantur*; my rough youth is behind me, and unlikely to return. Nor do I propose to elaborate on the fact that I collected cigarette-cards in my youth, and gathered my manna where it was to be found. The range of subjects covered by the cards was astonishing; the advertisement that set me off on this *recherche du temps perdu* listed 20 sets, half each from Willis and Plewett's Footballers, Film Stars and Motor Cars are obvious enough, though I cannot recall ever having collected any of these. But even in this list, which represents what must have been a total of many hundreds (remember that the manufacturers regularly and frequently phased out one set and introduced a new one), there are such less obviously appealing subjects as Household Hints, Air Raid Precautions (if you younger readers will come back next week, I will tell you what an Air Raid was, and what Precautions you took against it), Military Uniforms, Wild Flowers, Butterflies and Old Kitchens.

And also Railway Equipment. This is one of the sets I remember collecting myself, and what is more, completing; many a set, inevitably, was left unfinished, but for this one I bagged the lot for a brisk trade in

"swaps" went on all the time of course, and one's surplus copies of those cards acquired in duplicate or triplicate might be exchanged for the missing ones in another set), as I did with a set of Coronation Regalia, and one of Schoolboy Howlers, from which I learned among other items of information I have never succeeded in forgetting, that Julius Caesar must have been a very strong man because he threw a bridge across the Rhine, that a myth is a female moth and an episode the wife of an apostle, and that when Wellington died it took eight men to carry the bier.

Of the ones I remember, only Railway Equipment is included in the present offer; I think I could recite the details of many of the cards in it to this day, though how I ever became interested in the Westinghouse Brake System I cannot imagine. The point is, however, that the cards were, for the most part, not rubbish and were prepared with considerable care. The text on the back was correct and generally informative, and some of the fronts extremely attractive. I remember, for instance, a very swish set (probably by Kensitas) which consisted of real photographs of scenery in Britain; I wish I had kept that one. (Indeed, I wish I had kept

them all—complete sets of the rarer ones change hands today at substantial prices.)

From time to time, one of the tobacco companies thinks of starting the issue of cards again (they disappeared with paper rationing at the beginning of the war), but the industry as a whole is against the idea, no doubt because of the cost involved, and since it would almost certainly have to be all manufacturers or none, it seems that we shall never see them again. The cost, incidentally, must have been considerable; in addition to the preparation and manufacture of the cards, there were to be printed, at any rate from some manufacturers, when you completed a set.

My memories of collecting cigarette-cards include some of the most notable misunderstandings of my youth. There was a series on sportsmen, for instance, which gave you a biography of the player illustrated, ending with a question to which the answer was printed on a different card. There was a woman golfer on one of the set, and the question was: "Has she holed in one?" Having no knowledge of the game of golf, I was quite unable to understand the question, and puzzled

over it in vain for a long time. (I cannot now recall whether I ever got the card with the answer, but presumably it said only "Yes" or "No," which would not have got me much further.)

Another such card came in the series of *Howlers*, in the form of a dialogue: "How high is Mont Blanc?" "It depends on the mood!" This, a feeble enough pun anyway, was only intelligible to those who had heard of blanchmange; I never had, for this unpalatable food, for that, was unknown in my home, and it took me approximately 17 years to see the joke, which may well be a record. But worst of all from this point of view was a set called *Famous Minors*. My spelling in those days was by no means what it has since become, and I assumed that *Minors* were people who worked underground, hewing coal. Even at that age, I could not quite see Lady Jane Grey and the poet Marvell on a list of coal-miners, and there they were in the set, and I assumed, in the trusting way of childhood, that they must have done a stint at the hewing business before settling down to their brief life's work.

I suppose somebody has written, or is writing, an immense scholarly study of the cigarette-card, no doubt, in which its role in social history. Worried endeavours, no doubt. But if the authors grew up after the war there will be something missing from their books, something that could only be truly understood by those who had themselves collected cigarette-cards in their youth, and can in consequence tell you, as I proudly can, what a big loss it was when it split. I don't do it, Merry Christmas.

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## Why the Warwick Vase belongs to Glasgow

Slowly rising from its foundations in Pollok Park, Glasgow, is a building which will eventually house the amazing multi-million pound Burrell Art Collection. A bad year for building has delayed the day when Glaswegians can admire the 3,000 works of art, ranking among the most significant and important private collections in the world and it is unlikely that the Burrell Gallery will be ready to receive visitors until 1983. Completion, date, has already slipped by six months, and is now alarmingly late. The original price of £12m, currently stands at nearer £14m, and it is feared the final bill could be £20m.

Meanwhile, the art works remain sequestered in a secret store in Glasgow. The consolation for the taxpayers is that the collection is rising in value at perhaps a faster rate than the cost of the building. Two years ago, the collection was valued at £5m, but the increase in the value of objects at the Burrell collection is worth at least £60m and rising daily. It was given to Glasgow by the late Sir William Burrell, a millionaire shipping magnate, and has ever since been a pleasing embarrassment to the city. The first part of the collection came into Glasgow's care in 1944, but Sir William lived on another 15 years. His collection, which he had held in his hands for his life, was held in his hands by the dealers for his lack of specialization and for his unforgivable love of hoarding.

Trustees have relaxed the rule laid down by Sir William that at least 16 miles from the city centre. That was largely for fear of what Glasgow's caustic wit would do to delicate tapestries. The gallery set in beautiful parkland four miles from the middle of Glasgow, will have air conditioning that would quite equal the elderly millionaire's expectations. The gallery is to have three rooms that replicate rooms in Burrell's Castle near Berwick-on-Tweed, Sir William's old home.

The running costs will be about £1m a year, an additional worry for the city fathers who are growing increasingly anxious about the high cost of holding priceless treasures. What greatly alarms the museum service was a suggestion within the council that the best way of finding the money to house the art collection would be to sell a few of them off. Any such move would be heavily resisted by the trustees, and the art gallery is an ever-regarded jewel in the Glasgow Museum service will quickly point out that more people visit their year than go to football matches.

Ronald Faux

## Brussels must keep its hands off our charities

An early warning has been sounded about the potential threat to British charities under any fiscal harmonization within the EEC. It has been suggested that charities could lose about a third of their income if it came about.

There seems to be a healthy suspicion back benches that a possibility could become a probability, rather like the wine lakes and butter mountains that seemed to materialize overnight, as one member said.

A "hands-off" notice has already been served with the Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, being asked to ensure that our charities, which are generally regarded as being among the most caring, efficient and best-supported in the world, must not be emasculated financially by Brussels. They play a much larger part in British life than

is the case elsewhere in Europe. Mr. Anthony Beaumont-Dark (MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak) recently pointed out in the European Community debate that every constituency in Britain had a charity of one kind or another. Every member, as it were, therefore had a vested interest.

He said the total annual income of charities in Britain was nearly £2,000m and continued: "People give to these organizations from the largest, such as Oxfam, or relief for Cambodia, to a church donation because they wished to help others. If fiscal harmonization takes place the charities will have to raise an additional £600m to enable them to continue to work at their present level."

"Our European colleagues, despite their many virtues, do

not allow tax relief or covenant relief to churches or to charities. If the EEC is to mean anything—I sometimes wonder—needs fiscal harmonization to weld it together. But if fiscal harmonization takes place, the £600m will be forthcoming in further donations? People will simply not have the money to spare."

"We should remember that most of the good done by so many churches, charities and covenants—certainly the larger ones—will be brought virtually to an end by fiscal harmonization."

"Many charities commit their income for years ahead if it is to do any good. Their income would be cut by 30 per cent at the end of fiscal harmonization. I urge people not to forget the sum involved simply because small organiza-

tions are involved. When we talk of the benefits or lack of benefits of the Market we should remember that benefits from charities, covenants and churches are important issues to many thousands of people who receive them."

"I hope we shall fight hard and vigorously; if we do not stand up for these things they will fall."

He said that within recent months the charities had started losing income from covenants through the reduction in the taxation base rate which had meant lower tax repayments. Added to this was the increase in VAT and inflation. "If we think what a further threat from Europe would mean in terms of social deprivation, the whole area must be watched carefully. It is vital that the spirit of goodwill and generosity always so abund-

dantly evident in this country is not threatened. It would be a tragedy of monumental proportions."

The most recent report of the Charities Aid Foundation, which is devoted primarily to promoting and helping distribution of funds between charities, there was an almost total lack of appreciation of the size of the operation in Britain.

Mr. J. N. Livingston Booth, the foundation's director, said: "Most people who should know better when asked to estimate the total income of charity funds between £1m and £10m. The magnitude is such however that charity should now equate with government and big business as the third great provider for our society. To say that the income of charities is negligible is to say that the dividends paid by all British companies is to make a state-

ment that many will find startling and even incredible."

Charity in this country is not just a shining in a box, a summer fête or a fashionable premier; it is by any financial standards a very significant operation indeed.

"Private giving for the benefit of the community is a major factor in our society."

Mr. Livingston Booth said as the EEC was changed the charity system operated in Britain, Eire and Denmark. As president of the International Standing Conference based in Geneva, he was not aware there was anything to indicate Britain would have to change its system. So far charity leaders were aware of nothing that had yet been said by the EEC about harmonization of fiscal provision for charity.

Arthur Osman

## The UK children who are still not OK

"Being poor means being sad on the first day of school. My little girl can't have a uniform. The head teacher says it won't be covered by the Department of Health and Social Security or the education authority as it is not compulsory. The fact remains that the only children without one are from families that can't afford it."

"Being poor means finding a flat for £10 and having the DHSS refuse to pay more than £6. So your child is sent into care and you are lodged in a doss house with no bathroom."

These two statements from single parents highlight the poverty in Britain today. They are listed in a pamphlet published for the International Year of the Child which also gives the shocking statistics of children living in poverty, squalor and overcrowding.

In 1978, 300,000 children were living in families where family income was below the official poverty level even though one or both parents worked full-time. Another million lived in families that had to depend on supplementary benefit because the head of the family was sick, unemployed or elderly or a single parent; 100,000 were in local authority

care; 300,000 were living in flats above the ground floor; and about 300,000 were alone either after school or in the school holidays.

What has the UK Association for the International Year of the Child done during 1979 to combat the misery that some suffer during childhood?

Because the association has more than 600 members, including local community groups, charities, churches, trade unions, youth organizations and pressure groups, it has had to do some juggling to produce a programme acceptable to everyone.

Its activities have come under three headings: raising issues, setting up projects and arranging events for children. Operating from a condemned building in Whitehall provided by the Government, the Secretariat has done all in its power to ensure that as many people as possible became involved.

Mrs Judith Stone, the director, took as her model the *Julius and Ethel* which many people started off with a cynical attitude but ended up becoming involved in spite of themselves. Of the three strands that went to make up the year, she thought that the raising of

issues had been the most important. The association has published pamphlets on immigrant children, children in care, children in poverty, corporal punishment and the spiritual rights of the child.

The pamphlet on corporal punishment was extremely well quoted during the London Education Authority's debate on the subject and might have influenced their decision to ban it from their schools.

The projects which the association has set up include a half-day centre for handicapped children in south Pembrokeshire, Dyfed, which is expected to open in 1981, a children's art centre and a scheme to help latchkey children.

Perhaps the most ambitious project is the children's legal centre. The Department of Health and Social Security has provided a £9,900 grant for a nine-month feasibility study on the project.

Before a centre would aim at improving the child's position in law, in relation to such issues as care proceedings, custody cases and long-stay hospitals. It is likely that it would conduct best care advice or represent children's organizations, produce

publications and undertake research in areas of possible reform.

Projects for children in the developing world adopted by the United Kingdom association include fund raising for children in Kampuchea and the Vietnamese boat people, TB vaccination in Nepal, polio vaccination in South Africa and blinding malnutrition in India.

Events for children made up the third strand of the association's work. While local groups provided a myriad of entertainments, festive and competitive, the main national events were the great children's party in Hyde Park attended by 160,000 in May and the Young People's Parliaments held in London, Coventry, and Wales.

Did the association set its priorities right? Was the balance between the different threads correct? The charities which participated seem satisfied with the results. The year has ended with the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to raise considerably more money than usual and it is out of the red for the first time for four years.

Mr. Charles Jenkins, Director of Child Care at the Save the Children Fund, feels that

it has been important in bringing the voluntary organizations together both nationally and locally and improving co-operation between them.

The Child Poverty Action Group would have liked the association to have concentrated more on deprived children from the beginning of the year, particularly since the United Nations had asked countries to consider them especially.

The most useful thing to come out of the year as far as the action group was concerned was the pamphlet *UK Children OK*, which it helped to originate and draw up.

Money is still coming in from the year, but the amount so far collected by the association is £100,000 from industry and commerce, £54,000 in grants from the Government and trusts and £100,000 from the general public.

While many charities feel it has helped them to raise funds and make the public more aware of their existence, few of them would maintain that children are better off at the end of the year than they were at the beginning.

What child benefit was raised in April by £1 to £4, the full increase was only enjoyed

by those not paying tax and the value of the increase has since been eroded by inflation.

The Education Bill going through Parliament cuts the number of children entitled to free food at lunchtime by more than a half, and lifts the equivalent of the school bus to provide free transport for children. Several charities are seriously disturbed by the bill's consequences.

Mrs. Stone agreed that children in schools and from the poorest families were worse off at the end of the year, but said it was a total misreading of such a year to think that it could reverse or counteract the work of Government.

"It was still worth having. It was worth publishing books which alerted people to what happens to children in poverty and immigration, and it was worth setting up a national legal centre for children."

"The fact is that the British public cannot give responsibility for children to one committee for a year or to the voluntary organizations. If they want children properly cared for, they must vote accordingly."

Annabel Ferriman

## NEW YORK DIARY

Christmas in New York begins immediately after Thanksgiving Day at the end of November. On that day Macy's, the world's largest store, organizes a procession in which Santa Claus, bringing up the rear, drives his reindeer from Central Park along Broadway to take up residence in the store for the season.

It is a characteristic New York event. There are marching bands, drum majorettes and celebrities in decorated floats. Giant balloons representing favourite cartoon figures float above the street, occasionally bumping into a lamp post.

What makes it somehow symbolic of this accommodating city is that much of the route is along the part of Broadway most saturated with pornographic attractions. The House, Snoopy and the Muppet Show, gaily past the Pussycat adult cinema, with its lurid pink pictures, and the Ramrod adult theatre, open 24 hours, next door.

Thanksgiving also marks the start of the season of "Christmas specials" on television, as much a part of the American festive season as the Christmas cracker. If you ask for them in shops you are offered water biscuits. If you ask for

biscuits you get scones, but that is another story.

The specials are mainly films featuring one or more popular cartoon characters in a seasonal adventure. The first this year was "Frosty the snowman" meets Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer. Then we had "John Denver meets the Muppets", "Santa and the three bears", "Raggedy Ann and Andy in the snow Christmas", "How the Grinch stole Christmas" and so on and so on, ad nauseam—and believe me, ad nauseam does not take long to reach.

For the most part the same specials are dusted off and screened every Christmas, on the sound principle that millions of tiny viewers come to them fresh every year and that for the others familiarity is half the fun. A few new ones are added to the repertoire annually, which is why their season now has to begin in November to get through them all.

They end abruptly a couple of days before Christmas, which is puzzling at first but explicable if you think about the economics. The commercial reason for so many children's shows is that they provide an unrivalled medium for advertising toys.

Every gap in the action is plugged with advertisements for the latest irresistible board

game, car racing set or technological gadgetry, for which the young viewers, for whom the badgering season is over for another year, so the specials, and thus the advertisements, lose their point.

Television is not the only medium to exploit children shamelessly with the aim of making the parents' money. The telephone company does it, too, with its well-promoted service of Christmas stories from many lands, a different one every day all through December, each at the price of a local call.

Before I begin to sound like Ebenezer Scrooge, let me assure you that the real purpose of this festive column is to tell you what a wonderfully Christmassy city New York is. While it cannot pretend to the snow-covered, half-frozen coaching scenes of the greetings cards, it has created its own Christmas traditions which are no less potent.

I have to start at Rockefeller Centre, the midtown skyscraper office complex, which has always placed so admirably high priority on giving pleasure to the passer-by. When it was being built in the early thirties it was the first building site to erect galleries for people who wanted to watch the work in progress.



The extravagantly lit tree in its place is the focal point of the city's festivities. Television commentators call it the biggest Christmas tree in the world but they cannot know that and I suspect it to be native chauvinism.

It is a tremendous sight in any case, soaring above the permanent Brooklyn skyline of a leaping Prometheus, whose

flaming torch looks as if it might set the whole display alight. Better, skaters can make graceful patterns on the recessed rink enhancing the seasonal spirit.

Best of all I like the 12 herald angels, sculpted in wire, pointing their trumpets to the sky in a pattern which, from Fifth Avenue, seems to frame the Christmas tree in a triumphal arch. They are the work of Mrs. Valerie Clarebout, who first designed them in 1954, two years after arriving in New York from England.

They were one in a series of displays she did, changing the theme every year. The angels were so popular that in 1969 the authorities decided to put them up every Christmas. Department stores, with their electric window displays, add to the general gaiety. Those at Lord and Taylor are always so popular that crowd barriers are erected to the streets to organize an orderly queue past them.

Last year the windows portrayed street scenes showing contemporary landmarks. This year they have reached back to the past for tableaux of high life in the city's opulent restaurants in earlier periods. The careful and loving detail and the skill of what place these far ahead of any I have seen elsewhere.

Music is a literally inescapable part of the New York Christmas. The popular seasonal melodies flowing out of loudspeakers in office and hotel lobbies and lifts. Amateur choral groups give carol concerts in churches and public houses.

On one of the first really cold evenings of December, Macy's (I'm sorry if this column is beginning to read like an advertisement, but the big stores do tend to dominate life at this time of year), organized a singalong in Herald Square, just outside the park. Several hundred people, well swathed in scarves and mittens, turned up to join in.

The singing was led by their employees' choir, one of whom had written a song for the occasion. Local hamlets and the All Star Trio led the audience dancing on the pavement to his "Holiday Boogie Woogie".

My favourite musical manifestation is in the entrance to an office building on Madison Avenue. A group of instrumentalists have been placed in a "chamber" to produce a sort of human assistance. Facing them is a podium equipped with a baton, on which the public are invited to act out their fantasies of conducting a Christmas concert.

In a similar vein, the park of

great marble lions outside the public library on Fifth Avenue, which traditionally have Christmas wreaths.

Their necks (which are just as traditionally stooped) have this year been equipped with electronic roars, both to frighten off children and for the surprise and enjoyment of pedestrians.

Pantomimes as such are unknown here, though a musical version of Peter Pan has been drawing crowds on Broadway since the summer. Of the many other seasonal shows, few are as good as the off-off-Broadway version of a Christmas Carol, done by a group called the Ridiculous Theatre Company in Greenwich Village.

I am always struck by the high degree of professionalism in off-Broadway and off-off-Broadway troupes, and this was no exception. I went prodigiously and was only slightly disappointed by the campy result of a few of the main characters, but the singing was superb from the beginning to the end of the show.

One pleasing trend this year seems to be an increase in the number of real Christmas trees, as opposed to the plastic variety which were the rage a few years back. They are stuck on the pavements outside the better shops. Although the usual reminders of shortage caused by some cheap trees, these up-market ones are

expensive at the start of the season, they have settled to an average of about £12, depending on size.

On my little island between Manhattan and Queens, the boy scouts hold the Christmas tree monopoly, selling them from an unoccupied shop on the main street. The apartments on the island are all modern and have uniform ceiling heights of about 9ft, but some of the trees exceed that.

Over-ambitious buyers found they could not squeeze theirs in so they took them back to exchange them or to have blipped off. Everyone has a handy meal stand which keeps the trees upright and includes a trough for water to prevent them drying out and losing their needles. I have not seen such stands in England though no doubt readers will write in droves to tell me they exist.

Our tree this year was of modest size, giving the ceiling generous clearance, but of pleasing regular shape. I hauled it up, placed it on its stand and plugged it in the light. Although it is its third year in use, they lit it up at the first attempt and I pondered the joys of Christmas in a technologically sophisticated society. Have a happy one.

Michael Leapman







## Father Haslar's tilt at Papal infallibility

MR DARRYL ZANUCK  
Colourful Hollywood film man

(about a colored girl passing as white), both directed by Elia Kazan, were a little too fast and superficial to ring quite true, though achieving a co-

considerable box-office success. Other ventures, such as *Don Quixote* and *Andriana*, *The Snows of Kilimanjaro* and *The Captive*, went down the familiar along-the-road. They were, however, balanced by *12 O'Clock High*, one of the most intelligent and compassionate films to come out of the Second World War, *Viva Zapata*, where Mr. Kazan's vision is almost the perfect subject and the perfect use, in Mexico, of the American technique in which *Zemke*, *collaborator* in *Memnikiewicz*, such as *All About Eve*, *No Way Out* and *People Will Talk*.

In 1957 *Zemke* decided his duties as chief of production were increasingly encroaching on his personal filmmaking. He decided to start his own independent production unit, which still released its films through 20th Century-Fox. His first independent production, *Island in the Sun*, was sold to the major studios. The version of *Hemingway's* *The Sun Also Rises*, and a disappointing version of *Roger*

was in a highly political state.

The idea of a film production company was born in 1952 when he and his wife, Joan, took him and led to *The Longest Day*, the epic and highly acclaimed story of the D-Day landings. This Zanuck followed with *Cleopatra*, also lavish and immensely costly. But though he was a risk taker, he was not a gambler, and he knew the difficulties that would have overwhelmed any other man in the result, shrewd and vulgarly disappointed expectations.

In 1962 he had become president of the studio, and he had sent for Darryl F. Zanuck, Jr., who had been in the Country Fox and in 1964 he produced in England, the again immensely costly, comedies about the early days of flying—*Those Magnificent Men* and

**A. D. Caesar**  
**THE QUEEN'S**  
**SAVOY** (public w  
(Roxbury, Mass.)

Zauek was for 30 years a force to be reckoned with in Hollywood. Though many of his films could be criticized for doubtful taste, a discreet brand of sensationalism and a tendency to sentimentalism, his achievements nevertheless during his career he produced a handful of masterpieces, and a large number of films which cannot stand among the most intelligent and interesting and most popular entertainment Hollywood has produced. He won the Thelberg Award in 1937-1944 and 1950, and the awards made to films produced by him.

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**EIM**

Europe and eventually decided to settle in Venice. Her marriage to Max Ernst had ended in divorce, and once again her collection assumed a primordial place in her life. In 1949 she found the unfinished white eighteenth century palace on the Grand Canal which was to be her home for the rest of her life. The Palazzo Venier delle Manie had only one storey above ground, but it had abundant space beneath in which pictures could be hung (not always to their lasting advantage) and it had a wide terrace on the Canal, the loggia, the Prefettura, and it had a large shady garden behind it.

## Science report

Peggy Guggenheim lost no time in filling it not only with paintings and sculptures but with many things now famous but then unfamiliar and to many people bizarre and unacceptable: her bed-head by Alexander Calder, for instance, and her collection of poetical boxes by Joseph Cornell, and a collage screen by her friend Hans Bellmer, and many other souvenirs of a crowded and acquisitive existence.

It was in this environment that she would receive her old friends. And, with them, a host of new acquaintances and total strangers, many of whom came out of sheer astonishment.

panosome changes its coat has intrigued biologists. The available

was particularly under pressure at the time of the Biennale di Venezia, when her house became an information-centre for a kind of no-petted elsewhere, even in a city which has always thriven on gossip.

The question of the final disposition of her collection was a very real danger for world-wide speculation, and the Tate Gallery was one of many institutions, old, new, or putative, which rumour named as her possible buyer. Eventually it remained in the Family, and the late Leon, as a memorial not only to the art of our century but to one of its most characteristic and most badly-disputed personalities.

Mr. William Litton de Burch  
Young, who died on December

A. Remouf, Eastbourne  
Wellington C.

**BURBERRY  
BARGAINS**

The Burberrys sale begins  
on Thursday, 27th December,  
at 10/22 Haymarket, London,  
SW1, and not today as  
announced in *The Sunday  
Times*.

•

[illegible]



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## LES moves into the carpet market

combined English Stores, which includes the J. W. Handbags and J. Fenton menswear chain, acquired Mr Mercado, a 40-year-old, single, £5.4m IS is paying £2.7m through the issue of a new, unsecured stock and an additional £1.7m in cash. The deal was based on Mr Mercado's trading results over years.

Last year Mercado made pre-tax profits of £765,000 against 600,000 on sales of £3.8m. Net profit was £1.6m.

A loan stock issue is intended by Midland Bank and the company is offering an additional consideration of 80 per cent of the bid, if any, by which pre-tax profits of £750,000 in 1987 to January 1988 are expected to be beyond £1m in that period, they will receive 20 per cent of the additional amount provided the total consideration does not exceed £5.4m.

Mr Lewis Mercado, who is remaining as managing director, will be joining a Mercado director with Mr R. A. Ellis and Mr J. J. Wharton.

### Wolseley-Hughes is on course

Mr Jeremy Lancaster, chairman and managing director of Wolseley-Hughes has told the shareholders that the company appears to have overcome the worst difficulties arising from the recent engineering dispute which was not as harmful to the group as was once feared.

Although the strike had

affecting sales in overseas markets, one of the companies—P J Parmer—had just secured a valuable order worth about \$400,000 for tractors and equipment to be delivered to the Middle East.

The chairman thought it was too early to say how things would turn out in the current year, but despite all the down and gloom the company was bang on course.

Corporation for the whole of the issued ordinary and preference share capital in Antony Gibbs Holdings, which it does not already own.

Robert Fleming & Company are advised by the board of Antony Gibbs Holdings.

**Tractor development boost for BL**

**H & S Bank in talks with Antony Gibbs**

The Shanghai of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and Antony Gibbs Holdings announce that discussions are taking place which may lead to offers being made by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to acquire the bank.

Investment in tractor developments is paying off for BL at its plant at Bathgate, West Lothian. Shipments are 8 per cent higher to world markets this year.

They are up by more than half to America. The share of the home market has risen by 21 per cent. Bathgate is to get a further £125m in investment.

## he City's growing earnings

s greatly to the City's credit, rather than the general weakness of the United Kingdom economy and the loss of pounds of sterling, its contributions to net exports has steadily grown. This is contrary to the popular notion that City's performance has been weak. But it also conceals the deficit incurred on the public sector and the deficit and dividend (IPD) parts of the City with the surplus earned on services, a significant slice of which is payable to the City.

The point is clearly illustrated by the figures for the second quarter. Deficits of £1,000m and £1,500m (which include the notorious payments to the Treasury of £75m on IPD (which includes net interest on the North Sea), balanced by net earnings of £549m, invisible services. Indeed, the Committee on Invisible Services claims that invisible services rose by 10 per cent in the first half of 1979, roughly twice the expected rise over 1978.

Aggregate published figures for net earnings on services are a little misleading, because they include tourism, hardly the work of the City. Net earnings under this heading for the current year are expected to be little above 1978's £1,000m because more has been taken abroad this year by British holiday makers.

More under the City's control, however, is shipping. For the first time in many years, this account has a negative balance because of the world slump in shipping. It may also be that the United Kingdom's share of international shipping is falling, though this is debated.

These two items aside, the City's invisible earnings continue to offset losses on capital account and on other parts of the invisible account. Net contributions over the last three full years are: 1976, £1,795m; 1977, £1,750m; 1978, £2,307m. All the chief items of the City's contributions to the invisible account—insurance, banking, investment services, bullion and so on—expect growth will be maintained into next year.

The abolition of exchange controls is unlikely to make much difference. London was after all the effective

inventor of the Eurodollar market, and major exporters of capital such as big companies have always been able to move funds if they wished. An improvement may result from more foreigners being attracted to the City by it now being an almost completely free market. But there are already some 330 United States banks in London, more than in New York, so it seems unlikely that new nameplates will sprout all over the Square Mile.

Whether the City will retain its international prominence as the United Kingdom's status in the world greatly sinks is a matter for conjecture. One view is that the less powerful the country is politically, the less it is a threat, so emerging countries may prefer to use London's services rather than those of, say, New York. Still, financial centres are appearing all over the world, particularly in the Far East, the Middle East, and Latin America. The City's record is good. But it will have to stay on its toes if that record is to be preserved.

Michael Prest

**bond prices (yields and premiums)**

	Offer Price	Yield	Return	Offer Price	Yield	Return
<b>NIGHTS</b>						
of 1960	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1987	95 1/2	11.23
of 1961	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1988	95 1/2	11.23
of 1962	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1989	95 1/2	11.23
of 1963	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1990	95 1/2	11.23
of 1964	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1991	95 1/2	11.23
of 1965	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1992	95 1/2	11.23
of 1966	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1993	95 1/2	11.23
of 1967	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1994	95 1/2	11.23
of 1968	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1995	95 1/2	11.23
of 1969	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1996	95 1/2	11.23
of 1970	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1997	95 1/2	11.23
of 1971	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1998	95 1/2	11.23
of 1972	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 1999	95 1/2	11.23
of 1973	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2000	95 1/2	11.23
of 1974	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2001	95 1/2	11.23
of 1975	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2002	95 1/2	11.23
of 1976	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2003	95 1/2	11.23
of 1977	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2004	95 1/2	11.23
of 1978	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2005	95 1/2	11.23
of 1979	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2006	95 1/2	11.23
of 1980	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2007	95 1/2	11.23
of 1981	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2008	95 1/2	11.23
of 1982	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2009	95 1/2	11.23
of 1983	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2010	95 1/2	11.23
of 1984	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2011	95 1/2	11.23
of 1985	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2012	95 1/2	11.23
of 1986	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2013	95 1/2	11.23
of 1987	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2014	95 1/2	11.23
of 1988	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2015	95 1/2	11.23
of 1989	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2016	95 1/2	11.23
of 1990	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2017	95 1/2	11.23
of 1991	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2018	95 1/2	11.23
of 1992	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2019	95 1/2	11.23
of 1993	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2020	95 1/2	11.23
of 1994	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2021	95 1/2	11.23
of 1995	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2022	95 1/2	11.23
of 1996	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2023	95 1/2	11.23
of 1997	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2024	95 1/2	11.23
of 1998	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2025	95 1/2	11.23
of 1999	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2026	95 1/2	11.23
of 2000	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2027	95 1/2	11.23
of 2001	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2028	95 1/2	11.23
of 2002	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2029	95 1/2	11.23
of 2003	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2030	95 1/2	11.23
of 2004	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2031	95 1/2	11.23
of 2005	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2032	95 1/2	11.23
of 2006	95 1/2	13.00	11.23	Banknote 100 2033	95 1/2	11.23

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[illegible]

ly list of fixed interest stocks

[illegible]

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[illegible][illegible]

**Silver in limit**  
gains of 75 cents

New York, Dec. 21.—COMEX SILVER futures, after trading around on a narrow range, advanced 75 cents to \$209.50, closing at \$209.60. The price was \$209.50; Dec. \$209.00-50; Jan. \$209.00.

**CHICAGO GRAINS.—WHEAT.**—March, 458-53; May, 461-64; July, 464-67; Sept., 474-76; Dec. 490; March, 510-08. **CORN.**—March, 287-87; May, 298-97; July, 306-06; Sept., 316-16; Dec. 320-20.

## Dec Dec |

	21	20		21	20		21	20
Allied Chem	48	40	Ford	220	220	Pullman	280	40
Allied Stores	230	20	GAFF Corp	100	100	Rapid American	210	20
Allis Chalmers	300	300	Gamble Shogmo	220	21	Raytheon	680	60
Alcoa	610	540	Gen Dynamics	350	350	RCA Corp	210	220
Amaz Inc	500	400	Gen Electric	200	490	Republic Steel	240	220

## Link Base Rates

Bank	17	53	58
lyc Bank	17	60	60
ated Crdis.	17	70	70
and Co.	17	80	80
s Bank	17	90	90
in Mercantile	17	100	100
nd Bank	17	110	110
vestminster	17	120	120
inster	17	130	130
ms and Gly'n's	17	140	140
ay deposit on terms of	000 and under 15%.	150	150
\$250,000 15%.	over	160	160
000 15%.		170	170

**J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited**  
8 Lovat Lane London EC3R 2EB. Telephone: 01-438 8655  
The Counter Market

The Over-the-Counter Market						
Symbol	Company	Price Frid	Chg on work	Grass Dist	Vol Yr	P.E.
Airpreun Group		75	—	6.7	8.9	22.5
Armitage & Rhodes		38	—	3.8	10.0	7.4
Bardon Hill		212nd	-4	13.8	6.2	7.4
Deborah Ord		90	—	5.0	8.4	10.1
Frank 171: CULS		353	—	17.5	5.0	—
Frank Horsell		90	—	7.9	8.8	5.6
Frederick Parker		107	+1	12.8	12.6	8.3
George Blair		110	—	16.5	15.0	7.7
James Burrough		59	-1	5.9	8.8	3.5
Robert Jenkins		316	—	7.2	6.2	10.2
Terley Limited		244	+2	31.3	12.4	4.8
Twinnock Ord		223	—	14.3	6.4	5.2
Twinnock 125: ULS		17	-1	0.8	—	—
Uniflock Holdings		75	+1	12.0	15.8	4.6
Walter Alexander		83	—	4.4	5.3	5.5
W. S. Yeates		184	—	11.5	6.3	7.1
W. S. Yeates New		185	—	—	—	—

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week *ET Index change on week 419.6-11.4(2.6%)*[illegible]



## Stock Exchange Prices

### Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec. 10. Dealings End, Dec 27. \$ Contango Day, Dec 28. Settlement Day, Jan 7

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.  
(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

[illegible]









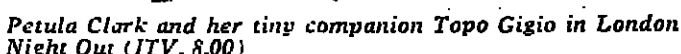






# Broadcasting Guide

## TELEVISION



WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN : † STEREO ; \* BLACK AND WHITE ;  
(r) REPEAT.

religion, lepers, battles and that unforgettable chariot race. Charlton Heston is Ben-Hur, Stephen Boyd is Messala. Distinguished musical score by Miklos Rosza. 5.20 News. 5.30 Thames News... 6.05 You're Only Young Twice: Christmas at Paradise Lodge. Comedy with Peggy Mount.



*Charlton Heston in the chariot race from Ben-Hur (TV, 1.30)*

9.00. *Film: The Tamarind Seed* (1974). A distinguished romantic drama in which a British widow (Julie Andrews) falls in love with a Russian military attaché (Omar Sharif) causing deep storms in intelligence circles. Also stars Ingrid Bergman, Justine Leplat and Henry IV production) and Sylvia Syms. Part 1.

10.15. *News.*

10.30. *The Tamarind Seed: part 2.*

11.30. *Midnight Communion: it* comes from Jericho Abbey in Northumberland, where the famous Midnight Stairs will be put to good use tonight.

**Southern**  
As Thames except: 1.20 pm News.  
weather, 5.30 Day by Day.

**Tyne Tees**  
As Thames except: Starts 5.20 am Good  
word, followed by North-East News.  
1.20 pm News, Lookaround, 5.30  
Northern Life.

**Grampian**  
As Trans: except: Girls 9.25 am First  
Thing, 1.20 pm News, 3.30 Grampian  
Today, 5.35-10p Club, 7.00 Welcome to  
the Christmas Cellaid, 11.20 Watch-  
night Service, 12.15 am News.

**Yorkshire**  
As Thames except: 1.20 pm Calendar  
News: 5.30 Calendar

**Border**  
As Thames except: 1.20 pm Cartoon  
5.30 Songs of Christmas

# Christmas Day



approximately 7.50 am, again on the ever-reliable Radio 4.

1.00 Christmas Oh Boy! Hit song of the 1950s and 1960s, sung by Joe Brown and the Bruvvers, Billy Hartman and other stars of this period.  
 1.25 The Crossroads: Motel stories — even on Christmas Day.  
 2.00 Star Games: Grand finale of the athletics comedy stars and a team of comedians spars at a team representing from the tug-war to golf.  
 3.00 The Queen: The message to the Commonwealth.  
 3.15 Film: *Goldfinger* (1964)  
 Smashing (literally) James Bond.  
 3.45 Film: *Goldfinger* (literally) the film war. Get. Know. Get. Probe.



*Eric Morecambe: ITV, 845.*

**5.10 News**

**9.45.** This Is Your Life Special :  
A. Anderson with abbecher  
biographical tribute. A longer qu-  
te tonight.  
**10.30 News.**

**10.40 Cleo's Christmas:** The singer  
sings at Christmas through a  
child's eyes, and there are foils  
and masters supporting her in-  
terviews show

**11.40 A Mystery at Love House:**  
Thrilling tale about strange hap-  
penings in a dead Hollywood star's  
mansion. A strong star line-up:  
Robert Wagner, Sylvia Sydney,  
John Hodiak, Dorothy Lamour,  
Jojo Carradine.

**12.00 A Child is Born:** Christmas  
chants from the monks of Far-  
nborough Abbey. Hants. to round

**Westward**  
At Theme except Starts 8:45 am Fall  
for Life 12.00 per Girl, Monaghan's  
Birthdays 31.45 Police Surgeon 12.70

CONFIDENTIAL

**Scottish**

Mr. Thomas - except. Sports 7:55 am  
Mr. Thomas - Christmas Message 11:00  
Mr. Thomas - Christmas 11:45 Glen  
Mr. Thomas - Christmas Carols 10:50 pm  
Live Call 10:55 Film - Fire Card Stud  
Mr. Thomas - Robert Mitchell Inver



his popular family quiz, with some special guests including Terry Scott, Bill Maynard, Wilfrid Brimble (old Sceptre).

12.30 George and Mildred: For the first time, the Young Conservatives bring Christmas Ball, but George has other, and better, ideas.

1.05 Film: The Three Musketeers. A new production (1973), with a splendid warlike and adventurous, true to the spirit if not the letter of Dumas original. With Michael York as D'Aragnan, the Duke of Retz is played from an unconvincing supporting cast.

1.45 Christmas with Eric and Ernie: The two comedians with their annual Christmas offering.

2.15 The Christmas Special: A Glenda Jackson (see Personal Choice).

2.45 Is This Your Life Special: A Random Andrews with another personal tribute. A longer one tonight.

10.30 News.

11.00 Cleo's Christmas: The singer returns to Christmas through a new film, eyes, and ears are full of the youngsters supporting her in her show.

11.45 A Mystery at Love House: A thrilling tale about strange happenings in a castle. Balford Thomas. A strong cast. Heine.

12.05 Robert Wagner, Sylvia, Sidney, Joan Blondell, Dorothy Lamour, and the rest of the cast.

1.00 A Child Is Born: Christmas from the monks of Farnborough Abbey. Santa to round off the evening.

**Granada**  
As Theme except: Starts 11:45 am Vegas  
72.35 A Child is Born.

**Westward**  
As Theme except: Starts 5:40 am Fair  
Life 12:45 pm Glee Monaghan's  
Birthdays 31:45 Police Monaghan 12:10

Clark, Emma, 1847-1911

# Scottish



## PERSONAL CHOICE



The Allen: BBC 1, 9.40

Boxing Day means cold and anyone who indulged their televisionitis yesterday is going to withdraw symptoms. One of the few games worth turning on the Royal Ballet double BBC 2 7.10. In the BBC, the tribute to celebrate the birthday, Sir Freddie n't sat in his drawing pulling slowly at an recent cigarette, and now he was intended to dance in choreography. Since he has done pretty much as he likes, he listens to and, if it moves him, he takes a ballet for it. If he loved, he doesn't bother. I sit outside on summer for hours, staring into and when told: "You have been working hard," replies: "Not my mind was completely and, although he is very tired, he is simply on his own effortlessness.

This same easy genius Peter Shaffer, in his madcap at the Olivier, is to believe was planted in the brain of Mozart, clear and entertaining; that Shaffer on this idea that it is a very difficult to the memory of Simon as the baying donkey that when listening to the flute (Radio 3, from this year's Salzburg with Eric Tappy and ruberova.

Stoppard, too, has a very easy talent. His like *The Real Inspector* (Radio 4, 3.15), a whodunnit, as strings games, as if a rd, setter had turned to

## Boxing Day's programmes

Edited by Nicholas Wapshott

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

9.45 *Over the Moon*.  
10.00 *What a Mess*.  
10.05 *Jackanory*: Hannah Gordon reads *The Christmas Box*.  
10.20 *Captain Caveman*: Animated cartoon.  
10.30 *Why Don't You...?* First of a new series which implores children to turn the television off and do something more interesting. There should be a similar programme for adults.  
10.55 *Magic Roundabout*: The French cult series on.  
11.00 *Mickey Mouse Club*: Goofy in No Smoking.  
11.20 *Greatest Heroes of the Bible*: today, Esther.  
12.00 pm *Weather*.  
12.10 *Grandstand*: Frank Bough introduces; at 12.15 Bob Wilson's *Grandstand* from Reading. Leads by Bunder. Racing: me 1.15, 1.45 and the 2.10 from Kempton Park and the 1.25 and 1.55 from Wincanton.  
2.35 *Film: Champions*. A *Love Story* (1978). A juvenile love affair, against parents' wishes,

which succeeds through the couple becoming champions ice-skating partners. Made for American television.  
Honey Tree: A. H. Shepherd's drawings animated by the Disney studio, easily gives Poot, that most English bear, an American accent.  
4.35 *The Road and the Miles of Max Boyce*: songs and jokes.  
5.10 *Disney Time*: Third dose of Disney toons, produced by Rod Hull and Emu with clips from *Aristocats*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and a plug for the latest Disney release, *The Black Hole*, not the film version of *Oh! Calcutta* but a lumbering science fiction epic.  
5.30 *News with Richard Baker*.  
6.00 *Jim'll Fix It*: Jimmy Saville makes children's dreams come true.  
6.40 *Are You Being Served?* Outrageously naughty comedy set among the double exquisites of a department store.  
7.10 *Film: Where Eagles Dare* (1968). Taken from Alistair MacLean's thriller, this best adventure film stars Richard Burton and

Clint Eastwood as two Allied soldiers who dress up as Germans to pluck a collection from a Nazi. Splendid escapism. With Michael Hordern, Peter Barkworth and Patrick Wymark.  
9.40 *Dave Allen at Large*: The droll, seven-fingered Irish comedian spins out the yarns about God and drinks. The location sketches are the weakest part.  
10.25 *News with Richard Baker*.  
10.35 *Boxing Night at the Mill*: This staid, suited chat show hosted by Bob Langley, might perk up a little with Les Dawson on the guest list. Music from Dana and Kenny Ball.  
11.25 *Film: Play It Again, Sam* (1971). You must remember this. Woody Allen is the romantic no-hoper who bases his style on Humphrey Bogart in *Casablanca*, involving the ghost of Bogey to seduce Diane Keaton. Unimpressive.

## Regions

**South East:** 12.30 *News*.  
**South West:** 12.30 *News*.  
**West:** 12.30 *News*.  
**North:** 12.30 *News*.  
**East:** 12.30 *News*.  
**London:** 12.30 *News*.

## REGIONAL TV

Gemma Craven: *The Dick Emery Show* (ITV, 7.45)

## Anglia

As Thames except: 12.30 am *The Big Question*.

## ATV

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Border

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Channel

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Grampian

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Granada

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## HTV

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Scottish

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Southern

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Tyne Tees

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Ulster

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Westward

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## Yorkshire

As Thames except: 12.30 am *Close-down*.

## RADIO

## Radio 4

6.25 am Shipping Forecast.  
6.30 Light Music.  
7.00 Today.  
7.00 8.00, News.  
7.30 8.30, *Headlines*.  
8.45 Reading: *The Seventh Pillar* by Sali.  
9.00 News.  
9.05 Breakaway.  
10.00 News.  
10.05 Have you Seen the Dragon?  
10.30 Daily Service.  
10.45 Little Women (2).  
11.00 *Trider's Hall of Fame*.  
12.00 News.  
12.02 pm Baker's Dozen.  
12.55 Weather.  
1.00 The World at One.  
1.40 The Archers.  
2.00 I'm Sorry, I Haven't a Clue.  
2.15 Musical: David and Goliath.  
3.15 Play: *The Real Inspector Hound*, by Tom Stoppard.  
4.15 *Solemn Vespers*.  
5.00 PM.  
5.55 Weather.  
6.00 News.  
6.05 My Music.  
6.35 From Our Own Correspondent.  
7.00 News.  
7.05 The Archers.  
7.20 The Countryside at Christmas.  
8.00 Play: *Brat Farrar*, by Josephine Tey.  
9.30 Kaleidoscope.  
10.00 News.  
10.05 Maria Malibran: portrait.  
11.20 *Burkiss Way*.  
12.00 News.  
12.15 am-12.23 Weather.

## Radio 3

6.35 am Weather.  
7.00 News.  
7.05 Records: Bakstrev, Nielsen.  
8.00 News.  
8.05 Records: Butterworth, Beethoven (Septet E flat).  
9.00 News.  
9.05 Chakovsky (Swan Lake Act II).  
10.00 Bach (Christmas Oration, pt 1).  
10.35 Spring quartet: Haydn, Mozart.  
11.30 Organ: Bach, Puppert.  
12.00 pm LPO (Johann: Haydn (Sym 99 and 100)).  
1.00 News.  
1.05 JPO: Haydn (Sym 101).  
1.40 Flanders/Horowitz (Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo).  
2.10 Music Weekly.  
3.00 Children Play and Sing.  
3.30 Piano (Zimernan): Brahms (Son 2), Mozart (K330).  
4.20 Interval reading.  
4.25 Zimernan: Chopin (Son 3).  
5.00 The Globe Restored: report on plans for a theatre in Michigan.  
6.00 Julian Bream Consort.  
7.00 Talk: on the photographer André Kertész.  
7.20 Spring quartet (Gabriel): Mendelssohn (op 44 no 3).  
8.00 Opera: *The Magic Flute*, by Mozart (Cotrubas, Gruberova, Talvela, Van Dam; Vienna PO/Levine).  
9.15 Six Continents: world news.  
9.30 The Magic Flute Act II.  
11.15 Harpsichord: Galuppi.  
11.55-12.00 News.

## Radio 2

5.00 am News weather. 5.03 Steve Jones. 5.07 David Jacobs. 10.03 Chiff Richard. 11.03 Max Bygraves. 12.03 pm Cilla Black. 1.02 Stop the World. 1.30-4.00 Sports Special: Racing (Kempton); 4.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 255m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 435m/688kHz and 86.91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.92 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92.95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 728kHz/417m. LBC 251m. 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m. 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 26m. 94.9 VHF.

Cinderella and cat: a scene from the puppet film *Cinderella* (ITV, 12.45)

## Films on television: A three-day guide

over 30 films to choose the five days that start Christmas Eve, some caring and choosing may vary. If you go for big, on Christmas Eve is the monumental 1959 fur (1.30), and on this day, at 8.30, BBC 1 *String* (Paul Newman, Redford and Scott Joplin) while BBC 2 has (10.45), Bob Fosse's based on Isherwood's *to Berlin*, and on New York, Joel Grey and innelli as Sally Bowles. *unwieldy* has vintage Bond, the 1964 *Gold-3.15* after *The Queen's* best of Richard Les-*stac* costume, *James*, *three Musketeers*. *The Diamonds* (6.45). Then *urday* BBC 2 shows *Cukor's My Fair Lady* which despite the pre-*lways* seemed a much down version of the original. Following that, BBC 1 has *Fred Zinn-*roid but very success-*ation* of Robert Bolt's for *All Seasons*, with *performances* from *colfield*, *Wendy Miller*, *Shaw* and, briefly, *velles*.  
u put quality before *l* would recommend *losey's* haunting, exquisite adaptation of *arley's The Go-Between* *as Eve*, BBC 1, 9.00; *Allen's* definitive laying *ghosts* of *Humphrey* and *the film noir* in *Again Sam* (Boxing *3C*, 1.31.25); and *Moby* *Friday*, BBC 2, 4.25), *the lot* of John Hus-*ms*, tends to improve *ney*, despite Gregory *finny* performance as *Abah*.  
last of BBC 2's *Gene*

Keith Michell: *Henry VIII and His Six Wives* (BBC2, 12.10 on Boxing Day)

Kelly musicals is *Singin' in the Rain* (Christmas Eve, 10.55), one of the best of the series, getting rich comedy from the story of Hollywood's switch to sound movies, when the careers of voiceless beauties faded overnight. Other musicals are *Okla!oma!* (Boxing Day, BBC 2, 10.35), which has some nice performances—Gordon Macrae, Shirley Jones and Gloria Grahame as *The Girl Who Can't Say No*—but shows that musical was not Fred Zinneman's forte as director; and (made a year later, in 1966), a lush and lively *The King and I* (Boxing Day, ITV, 2.00), with Deborah Kerr as the indestructible Yul Brynner, still doing the role today in London.  
BBC 2's *Beatles* series also continues with *The Yellow Submarine* (Christmas Eve, 5.00)—not really a *Beatles* film, but an imaginative cartoon, feature, by George Dug-

Yul Brynner: *The King and I* (ITV, Boxing Day, 2.00)

ning, with a *Beatles* sound track. *A Hard Day's Night* (Christmas Day, 3.00), was the first and best and most authentically crazy of Richard Lester's collaborations with the group, and a vital text in the story of *Singing in the Rain*. *Let It Be* (Boxing Day, 5.50) was latter-day *Beat* mania—a non-script affair, unimpressively set around a recording studio, directed in 1970 by Michael Lindsay-Rogers.  
Otherwise there is sadly little in the way of comedy this Christmas—just a TV spinoff, *Man About the House* (Boxing Day, ITV, 8.45), which has the infallible merit of Arthur Lowe in a supporting role; and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Friday, BBC 1, 6.30), more *Richard Lester*, this time *Plagiarist* high heels, *Jimmy* *gifs* and starts, it has *Zero Mostell*, *Phil Silvers*, *Michael Hordern* and the great *Buster*

Yul Brynner: *The King and I* (ITV, Boxing Day, 2.00)

many at the close of the First World War, directed by John Guillermin and starring George Peppard and James Mason. Deputing respectability characterizes two costume pieces *Waris Hussein's Henry VIII* and his *Eight Wives* (Boxing Day, BBC 2, 12.10) is at least a cut above Charles Jarrott's *warwick Mary Queen of Scots* (Christmas Eve, BBC 2, 2.40).  
Strictly for the kids (and not the more critical of them at that), there is a poorish international remake of *Treasure Island* (Christmas Eve, BBC 1, 1.00), whose slight merit is Orson Welles's playing of Long John Silver; and a worse updating of the story of 1840 Mexico, directed by and starring Kirk Douglas, *Scal-*wag (Boxing Day, ITV, 11.00). The boy in this film is Mark Lester, who also appears in an amiable remake of *Black Beauty* (Christmas Day, BBC 1,

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